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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 25TH MARCH.

IF THE CIVIL AND MILITARY GAZETTE in adverting to the late Taxation Meeting of Calcutta the other day had protested against it as a sign of the advance of democracy in India, of which the British Government should take a timely warning, it has the candour to do full justice to the petition adopted at that meeting. We have read with great pleasure its article headed "the British Indian Association" in its issue of the 19th instant. It says, "the meeting is an event from which we shall assuredly date a new and remarkable chapter in the history of our Indian empire." In alluding to the petition the writer remarks :

It is an elaborate, and in our opinion, an absolutely just commentary upon what really amounts to a flagrant misappropriation of Imperial funds. Its indictment is drawn with great skill and moderation, and even if it be inoperative as regards its professed object, its appearance, and the manner of its action, must produce a deep impression upon opinion both in England and India.

It is for the first time in Indian history, the protest of the masses against an unjust disposal of national wealth. We have taught an immense population how to give utterance to national thought, and we have here an extraordinary example of the results of the lesson.

The Association knows its business, and the British temper well. Moreover, the plaint is not only sure to be listened to, but it is undoubtedly well founded.

Again :

That India has been for years most unfairly taxed on the head of Home military charges is a conviction that forces itself upon the mind after reading the petition of the British Indian Association.

The writer does not agree as to the expediency of reducing the native army, but goes on to say—

However the petition continues its indictment by a very able, and in some respects, unanswerable attack on the expenditure in the Department of Public works, and we may sum up a very elaborate display of this department's weak points in the words of the petition itself. "There is a wide feeling in this country that the chronic deficit in the Indian revenue is greatly due to mistakes, waste and extravagance in the Public Works Department." We cannot refuse our assent to that very comprehensive and concise statement.

The writer thus concludes :

We shall be curious to see the result of this in many respects very remarkable appeal.

If it be successful, it will, as we have said, usher into the political arena a new organisation of power, which may, or may not, prove an ally to sound Government.

That it is destined to play a very important part in that arena we have no doubt whatever.

We regret we have not space for more extracts. But what we have given is enough to shew the fair spirit, in which our contemporary, who is peculiarly qualified to descant on military questions, has treated the petition.

THE PUNJAB GOVERNMENT has evidently lost its head. It is carrying on a most undignified war with the local Anjuman, but its missiles are directed not so much against the Anjuman as against its President, Dr. Leitner. It addresses the President in this fashion :

In your present letter the real and obvious meaning of the Government is studiously put aside, and its intentions misrepresented in a manner which the Lieutenant-Governor cannot but consider disingenuous in the extreme.

The Lieutenant-Governor's objection to the scheme was in short, that the Anjuman proposed to constitute itself the critic of the educational policy of Government, and of the work and teaching of the Department of Public Instruction, in an unconstitutional manner.

It is with a feeling of surprise and displeasure that the Lieutenant-Governor sees an attempt made in your present letter to change the real issue, which is merely the insubordinate attitude of an Educational Officer, into a fictitious one, *viz.*, the objection of the Government to the free discussion of educational questions.

But the Lieutenant-Governor declines to accept assurance contained in the 10th paragraph of your present letter, which forms, moreover, the assumption underlying the whole of it that the Educational Congress was the spontaneous idea of the native gentlemen connected with the Anjuman, since the information in the possession of the Government, and which is open to any one who cares to enquire into the subject, shows that the proposal entirely originated with yourself, and was submitted by you as a complete scheme, to the Society, which probably did not possess the technical knowledge of the almost exclusively educational subjects, which then formed its programme, to either criticise or oppose it. But into this question, as into the numerous inconsistencies and errors of your letter under reply, there is no occasion to enter.

We are surprised that the Punjab Government could persuade itself to send forth to the world such stuff as the above. Supposing that the idea of an educational congress emanated from Dr. Leitner, and that the Anjuman adopted it, in what respect was it "unconstitutional"? Dr. Leitner, it is well known, takes a lively interest in the welfare of the people of the Punjab; he has done a great deal in advancing their intellectual and moral well-being; the establishment of the Punjab University was chiefly due to his exertions and energy, and instead of appreciating his philanthrophic labors the Punjab Government drags him through the mire for venturing to create something like public opinion among the natives of the Punjab on educational and other questions. Perhaps Mr. Egerton is not aware that Dr. Leitner has the confidence of the Viceroy, and was the real author of the late Text-Books Committee at Simla. Will Lord Lytton allow this gross insult to a sincere friend of the natives and a devoted laborer in the cause of native improvement to pass unnoticed?

THE CIVIL AND MILITARY GAZETTE has the following :

The Press in India is sometimes accused of scurrility and of speaking evil of dignitaries, yet we do not often indulge in such *insuendoes* as the following taken from that veracious home journal called *Truth* :—

"Samuda, M.P., and E. I., Reid, M.P. voted with the Government on the £6,000,000 credit. Why? Because they believed that it would be of advantage to the country, that the Government should have the spending of this sum, and not because a portion of it was to be handed over to Samuda, M.P., for an unpaid Turkish ironclad, and another portion to Reid, M.P., for an unpaid Japanese ironclad."

"THE SUPPLY of pure water to the population is at the present time exciting the interest throughout the country,' wrote the Prince of Wales the other day to the Chairman of the Council of the Society of Arts. *Apropos* of this the *Civil and Military Gazette* says :

It is of course, indisputable that such men as the Hon'ble Kristodas Pal, Dr. Rajendra Lall Mitra, and men of that stamp are better judges of hygiene than the *savans* of Europe, and infinitely better informed on questions of sanitation than a mere Heir Apparent to the British throne, and yet there must surely be some latent virtue in pure unadulterated water, at least in countries situated within the temperate zone.

Would the writer believe that these barbarians have voted 20 lakhs of rupees for doubling the supply of "unadulterated water"? What they object to is the indiscriminate filling up of tanks without replacing them with good water. It is incomprehensible why English critics of the Calcutta Municipality cannot understand this distinction.

THE ABOVE JOURNAL thus comments on the Vernacular Press Act :

The idea which we are convinced will occur to most Englishmen's minds at the first glance at the subject, will be that the Government has made a mountain out of a molehill; the next will be that it is a pity the matter has cropped up at all; and finally he will perceive a good many inconveniences and inconsistencies likely to arise in the future, to which a more than necessary prominence will probably be accorded.

As regards the first idea, the Englishman is in the way of seeing so little of the evil against which the Act is directed, that he ignores it altogether as a general rule, and smiles contemptuously at any special instance of it forced on his notice. He will not believe the evil itself can be big enough to be a source of danger.

For the native, we think that not one in a thousand either cares for or understands the subject at all. Among the extremely minute proportion of those who do, there may be some who are disposed to treason and sedition, and against whom it will be necessary to guard the State. But these questions at once occur to us: Is this class sufficiently numerous and powerful to demand special legislation, and is not the measure now taken likely to invest it with an importance to which it could not have aspired in neglect? It must be remembered that in establishing a censorship, we in fact undertake the responsibility of all the future utterances of the vernacular press, a responsibility which might be very inconvenient; for that press would henceforth acquire a sort of official weight.

We believe this is the opinion of all right-minded and unprejudiced Englishmen.

TUESDAY, 26TH MARCH.

THE MODEL FARM at the Kassia Hills has collapsed. The farm, when started, says a morning contemporary, was under the immediate care of a European Superintendent, but because the income derivable from the project was unable to bear the charge, the services of this gentleman were dispensed with in January, 1877, and the agricultural operations were limited to experiments in raising grain crops, such as wheat, barley and oats, on a small area of about four acres of irrigated land; and in keeping up a small kitchen-garden and orchard. This is mere child's play at farming.

ACCORDING to the *Times of India* the India Office has submitted a scheme for the employment of native regiments in the event of war. Lord Salisbury is believed to be unfavorable to the proposal, but its feasibility is urged by the military members of the Indian Council.

THE LONDON CORRESPONDENT of the *Pioneer* has the following :

"By the way the Queen has sent some very handsome presents to her grand-daughter, who has just been married at Berlin. Not the least valuable has been a pink silk dress, trimmed with very expensive lace, the work of a well-known *modiste* in the West End. The latter is a bit of a character. She is said to possess a most exquisite taste as to colour and design, and she makes no dinner dresses under £50. But she has a most awful temper. It is not long since a lady, high in the peerage called to complain of a bonnet which the *modiste* had made for her, and the lady was not a little astonished to find the bonnet—it is said to have been a ten-pounder—kicked after her down the staircase. On another occasion a member of the Royal Family sent her a dress for alteration, which dress was not of the *modiste's* own manufacture. It was instantly returned, with the intimation that it ought to be altered by those who made it. The woman, however, is such a magnificent dressmaker, that this infirmity of temper—which is perfectly well-known in society—has to be tolerated."

A LETTER in the *London Daily News* describing the torchlight meeting at Bristol, concludes by saying that Daniel O'Connell described Lord Beaconsfield as "the direct lineal descendant and heir-at-law of Judas Iscariot." Why cannot, says the *London Examiner* this famous saying of O'Connell's ever be quoted, right? What O'Connell did say, speaking of Disraeli, was :—"He possesses just the qualities of the impenitent thief who died upon the Cross, whose name, I verily believe, must have been Disraeli. For aught I know, the present Disraeli is descended from him; and with the impression that he is, I now forgive the heir-at-law of the blasphemous thief, who died upon the Cross." What is vernacular journalism compared with these polite epithets, which have become a part of English literature?

APROPOS of the plentiful distribution of Orders and Crosses, the following couplet is making the round of the Russian press :—

'Once, hanging rogues on crosses was in vogue,
But now they hang a cross on every rogue.'

PRINCE BISMARCK excused himself from attendance at the opening of the Reichstag, on the ground that the state of his legs prevented him from standing so long as he would probably be compelled. For the same reason he has been obliged to decline taking part in the torchlight dance to be executed by the Ministers at the wedding of the Royal Princesses. This is certainly the first time, says *Mayfair*, it has been admitted that Prince Bismarck has not had a leg to stand on.

THE FOLLOWING LINES about three Bs appear in *Mayfair* :

Little B, Great B, Bouncing B,
Beust and Bismark and Benjamin B!

WEDNESDAY, 27TH MARCH.

THE TIMES OF INDIA makes the following remarks on the Vernacular Press Act :

The British mind recoils from the idea of an editor, even a Brahminical editor of tender years, submitting the proofs of his articles for correction to official hands.

We can all easily fancy the pedantic complacency with which the bureaucrats of the Continent will learn that the English in India have found out that they cannot combine the government of their newly created Empress with a free press, and that they have been compelled to borrow from the decried administrations of the Continent the familiar weapons of administrative despotism. They will smile at the threadbare excuse that the existing laws are inadequate to punish libels or direct appeals to sedition. Was there ever a despot or an oligarchy unprovided with a similar excuse?

It is an advantage to any Government, and particularly to a Government of foreigners, to know the worst that can be said of them. It would be absurd to suppose that the same things would not be said and circulated if all the vernacular papers were suppressed, only the Government in that case would be in total or nearly total ignorance of what the most numerous class of its subjects thought about it. There can be no doubt that hereafter the development of the English native press may constitute a certain embarrassment to Government, but an embarrassment which in our opinion they are bound to face and by which they may even profit. It goes without saying that a foreign Government can never be completely popular, and that all its mistakes must expect the most unsparing censure. But it is also true that publicity is one of the greatest safeguards of such a Government when its intentions are as honest as those of the British Government undoubtedly are. It is therefore with great reluctance that we see that Government taking the first retrograde step on the path of liberty, for it affords an uncomfortable indication of further step hereafter in the same direction. What must also add to our regret is the conviction that the cause alleged is really an insufficient one. It is deplorable that the scurrility of a few contemptible prints should compel the abandonment of a great and generous principle. It will very generally be interpreted as a confession of fear, however unjustly. It is at any rate a slur on the efficacy of our administration that evils of a kind which every one might have foreseen should require such novel and *drastic* remedies.

THE HIGH COURT OF N. W. P. has refused to enrol Mr. Piercy Henderson as a barrister. He is a barrister—in England—and a civilian here, and has lately

been made Government Advocate at Lahore. But the Chief Court will not hear him as a barrister till he has been received as such by one of the High Courts. Hence his application, which has just been refused. A pretty pass this! But why should the High Court enrol a Barrister, who does not intend to practise? The Bengal High Court once refused an application of this kind.

WE HAVE received the following letter regarding the Entally accident:

I am extremely sorry to inform you of a sad and fatal accident which happened to a bearer named Koonchand Dass and a brother of my friend and patient Mr. J. Meade. He is an assistant to Messrs. Colvin and Co., of this city. Mr. Meade who lives at Convent Lane, North Entally, was this morning dressing for church when he received a hurried note from his friend and neighbour Mr. Blacquere to come and shoot a wild boar that had come up to his gardens and was the terror of the people living in it. Mr. Meade as the best shot in the locality and afraid of the wild boar doing some mischief to the people in the locality at once ran off to Mr. Blacquere's—took his rifle and cartridges with him. The wild animal having been pointed out to him he sent the contents of one of the chambers of the rifle towards its direction and the recoil of the missile made the other chamber to go off also, but the boar escaped unhurt and ran off in another direction. Mr. Meade immediately put in two fresh cartridges and ran after the animal with the rifle in his hand and while doing so one of the barrels accidentally went off and struck Mr. Meade's bearer, who was running in front. The poor man dropped down dead on the spot. Mr. Meade and all the spectators that were behind him were horrified to find a man killed and finding it impossible to bring the poor man back to life, he in company with his friends Messrs. Blacquere and Grafe ran over to the Entally Police Section, and informed the Inspector of what had happened. They all then returned to the scene of the accident and the Inspector having enquired into the matter and satisfied himself that the death of the poor man was the result of a pure accident he convened a Jury and held a sort of Coroner's inquest and sent the body to the Medical College Dead House. The poor man's widow having been sent for, rupees twenty were given her for his funeral expenses and she was assured by Mr. Meade that he will do all in his power to compensate her for the terrible loss she had sustained, that she should look up to him for her future support, that he would continue giving her husband's full wages every month.

Mr. Meade in company with the Police Inspector came over to Mr. Lambert, the Deputy Commissioner of Police, and he was satisfied from the depositions of the witnesses taken on the spot that the death of the unfortunate man was the result of pure accident.

Knowing as I do Mr. Meade so thoroughly it would be culpable on my part not to tell you that a more kind-hearted thoroughly good man it is impossible to meet with. From my personal knowledge of him extending over a period of 18 years I can confidently assert that he is the last man to do harm to any human being. It is pitiful to see his heart-rending grief at the death of his faithful servant, albeit it is the result of a pure accident."

SEVENTY-FIVE millions of people are reported by Sir T. F. Wade to be in a state of fearful destitution in North China in consequence of three years of drought.

REYMER'S CHRONOLOGY furnishes us with the following interesting information of Romish observances:—Holy water was first used in A. D. 120; penances was introduced in 157; Monachism in 348; the Latin mass in 394; Extreme unction in 550; belief in purgatory was first inculcated in 593; invocation of the virgin and the saints began in 715; kissing the Pope's foot dates from 809; the canonisation of holy persons deceased from 993; baptism of bells from 1000; the celebacy of the clergy from 1015 (but not generally insisted on till 50 or 60 years later) indulgences were introduced in 1119: dispensations and the elevations of the Host in 1700; the Inquisition was established in 1204; Auricular Confession dates from 1215; and Papal Infallibility was proclaimed in 1870.

THURSDAY, 28TH MARCH.

A CORRESPONDENT from Santipore writes to say that the Post Office of that important town in the Nuddea district is proposed to be converted into a Branch Post Office—that is to say it will be reduced to the position of a dependant receiving office and the mails for it will be received second-hand. It is one of the measures of cheese-paring economy lately inaugurated by the postal authorities, though they are multiplying officers in other directions. The Santipore Post Office receives and despatches about 500 registered letters daily, more than 250 ordinary covers, and receives and despatches by each mail half a dozen parcels and newspapers. The measure if carried out will inflict great hardship upon the people of Santipore.

THE PEOPLE of Santipore seem also to be much aggrieved by the establishment of a municipal outpost at Muttygunge on the bank of the river near the female bathing ghat. Have the Municipal Commissioners given consent to this measure?

WE HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of the first four Nos. of a vernacular periodical published at Monghyr every full-moon day. It is a diglot journal written in Bengali and Hindi and called Dhurma Procharuk. It is an organ of the Arya Dhurma Procharini Sabha. Its rate of subscription is Rs. 3 per annum payable in advance or one rupee quarterly. We wish the new journal every success.

A CORRESPONDENT thus writes to us from Julpigoree under date the 26th instant: "The Courts of Julpigoree have been reduced to ashes. Suddenly a fire broke out at first in the Deputy Commissioner's Court, and gradually spread over the Munsif's Court, Judge's Court, Commissioner's Court, and the Registrar's Court. The oldest records of the district have been burnt down. Not only the records of this district are burnt but I think the records of this division are gone." The incendiary has not yet been caught.

WE LEARN that His Excellency the Viceroy has received the following telegram from the Secretary of State:

"The *Times* summary of my answer as to Oliphant is incorrect fearing that Reuter may send it, I subjoin true summary. Lord Salisbury regretted Government of India had found it necessary to remove Mr. Oliphant Her Majesty's Government had seen good reason to support them unreservedly in that decision but it did not imply anything injurious to Mr. Oliphant's private character. Message ends."

DISTRESS is not yet at an end in the Deccan. The local *Herald* says:

"There are hundreds who would be glad to work who have nothing to do. Whenever an opening is heard of, crowds of applicants rush to the front, even though there should be only Rs. 5 of pay attached to it. The times are the most trying we have seen during our thirty years' experience of the country; and yet we do not see the end of it, for the *rubbee* harvest is almost a failure in many of the talookas in our very neighbourhood, while the scarcity of water is now becoming very serious in some of them."

But the local Government has broken up the relief camps.

OWING to scanty harvest at Goa, fears are being entertained that there will be a scarcity of grain. Enquiries have accordingly been set on foot to ascertain old stocks in hand.

THERE IS great distress in Lucknow. A correspondent writes: "The poor people are still dying on the roadside and backslums of the city. Wolves through hunger have come into the city. One was shot the other night by a gentleman in the Civil lines quite close to the Chutter Munzil Palace, while we hear daily of wild animals taking away children, goats, and sheep."

FRIDAY, 29TH MARCH.

THERE HAVE BEEN riots in Surat in connection with the License tax. We take the following account from the Bombay papers:

"Municipal servants were a few days ago, with printed forms, to make enquiries among the townspeople with a view to the classification of those liable to pay the License Tax; but instead of answers they got only blows and were pursued and hooted away by densely packed crowds. Some of the Municipal servants got so roughly treated that they had to seek the assistance of the Police before they ventured out again; but even the Police, though they presented a bold front, were driven before the fury of the mobs who assailed them. The consequence has been a general commotion in the city. The Police and Municipal authorities, with guards of armed men and sentries, went about among the people and tried to dissuade them from lawlessness; but the answer of the people was, "We have no means of paying the License Tax; and if you take anyone of us into custody, the whole population is ready to go to prison and get *batta* there at the expense of the authorities." A correspondent states that many persons have fastened padlocks to the doors of their house and have taken to the fields and to the jungles to avoid the service of the printed returns upon them."

The Collector prudently enough awaits the instructions of Government before taking stringent measures against the rioters.

THE TEN PRUSSIAN UNIVERSITIES cost yearly 7,146,000 marks (357,000*l.*), of which sum about two-thirds is contributed directly by the State. This amount is divided as follows:—Berlin, 1,334,700 mark; Bonn, 712,500; Konigsberg, 668,600; Breslau, 620,300; Kiel, 478,800; Marburg, 430,400; Halle, 368,800; Gottingen, 268,600; Greifswald, 135,600, and Munster, 102,500. In Bengal the total expenditure on State and aided Colleges amounts to Rs. 396,968 per annum, of which the sum of Rs. 2,24,532 is contributed by Government and Rs. 172,462 raised by fees and private contributions, and yet there are critics, who say that the Government is giving gratuitous education to the people.

THE RIGHT Reverend the Lord Bishop delivered a lecture at a Literary Club at Bhowanipore the other evening, in course of which his Lordship made some remarks justifying the Vernacular Press Act These remarks called forth a strong protest from Babu Ashutosh Biswas and the Revd. Dr. K. M. Bannerjea. Mr. Justice Jackson, who presided on the occasion, expressed his strong disapprobation of the turn the discussion had taken. He said that he would not have presided if he had known that a literary lecture would be converted into a pretext for a political demonstration. But why did the Lord Bishop import controversial politics in a literary discourse!

THE LAST number of the *Indian Charivari* contains the portrait of Captain Loch, A. D. C. to the Viceroy, and a biographical sketch of Lieutenant Col. the Hon'ble George H. H. Villiers, officiating Military Secretary to the Viceroy. The mistake has been since corrected.

SATURDAY, 30TH MARCH.

ACCORDING to the Russian newspapers, the Chinese in Kashgaria have formally proclaimed the deposition of Beg Kuli Beg, and have installed Mirza Beg as Governor of the country.

THE TRIAL of the Raja of Pooree has commenced. Great excitement prevails in Orissa.

GANENDRANATH BANERJEA of the Sovereign case has been convicted and sentenced by the High Court to three years' rigorous imprisonment. Would he have got his deserts if Moulvi Abdul Lutief had not after a patient investigation elicited the real facts of the case? Yet the Moulvi was blamed for prolonging the preliminary trial.

THE BOGRAH PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATION have memorialised the District Magistrate on the subject of the shallowness of the River Kuroty a, which stagnates in the dry season and is navigable only during the rains. The necessity of the measure is urged on the ground that this shallowness obstructs trade and commerce, increases the unhealthiness of the villages lying on its banks and generaly puts the people to inconvenience in performing journeys on business and pilgrimage, also that it is an obstacle in the way of the people's taking advantage of the new railway. The memorialists pray that the river may be deepened and the cost recouped from tolls, which they estimate will exceed Rs. 20,000 per annum.

THE MORTUARY returns of the Suburbs of Calcutta for February last give 1189 deaths against 1752 of the previous month. The deaths were from cholera 167, small-pox 15, fever 557, bowel-complaint 215, and the rest from other causes. The deaths in the corresponding month of last year were 1003. The deaths in the jails and hospitals during the month were 221.

THERE WERE 383 deaths in Calcutta during the week ending 23rd March, of which 78 were from small pox, 95 from cholera, 88 from fever, 28 from diarrhœa and dysentery, 18 from tetanus and the rest from other causes. Seven persons died from old age and 10 children were still-born.

WE HEAR that Mr. Anandamohun Bose has been returned to the Syndicate of the Calcutta University as the representative of the Faculty of Arts.

HIS EXCELLENCY the Governor General in Council has appointed the under-mentioned gentlemen to be Fellows of the University:—

"The Hon'ble H. S. Cunningham, barrister-at-law, the Hon'ble H. T. Prinsep, C.S., the Hon'ble G. H. P. Evans, barrister-at-law, C. E. Bernard, Esq., C.S., C.S.I., the Hon'ble Mohinimohun Roy, Colonel F. S. Stanton, R.E., D. M. Barbour, Esq., C.S., C. J. Lyall, Esq., B.A., C.S., W. T. Blanford, Esq., F.R.S., F.G.S., W. C. Bonnerjee, barrister-at-law, Dr. Souriudromohun Tagore, the Rev. J. Robertson, A. Pedler, Esq., and A. E. Gough, Esq., B.A."

OUR KRISHNAGHUR CORRESPONDENT thus writes to us under date the 28th instant:

Yesterday (27th) at half past 5 o'clock, a meeting was held in the premises of the Old College Building, for the purpose of collecting subscriptions in aid of the poor inhabitants of Debogram whose homesteads and property to the tune of nearly Rs. 21,000 had been burnt down by an accidental but general conflagration, on Sunday forenoon. The originator of this movement is due to our popular Magistrate Mr. Stevens, who in the absence of our popular Sessions Judge Mr. Lawford, took the chair and conducted the business of the meeting. A Committee consisting of some officials and some leading members of the local bar, was then appointed to raise subscriptions from different parts of the district.

IT IS stated that a Commission has been appointed, consisting of Mr. Joubert and M. L'Barlie, by the Government of France, to enquire into and report upon the administration and financial condition of the provinces comprising French India.

A DECCAN paper says that the distress among the agriculturists of Indapore has increased on account of the tax that is levied on houses. The people are leaving for the works at the Ghauts.

AN EMPLOYE of the East Indian Railway is charged with outraging the modesty of a young lady. The case is under investigation before the Magistrate of Serampore.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

Berlin, 23 March.—An essential modification in the German Government is imminent, the German Ambassador at Vienna partially replacing Prince Bismark, whilst the creation of imperial ministries of finance and railways is pending.

24th—It is semi-officially stated that German interests are unaffected by the treaty of peace concluded at Sanstefanos.

25th—The North German Gazette states that the Congress is not likely to meet, but that England's attitude does not absolutely imply war. The Russian Army, it further states, remains near Constantinople, and will regulate its conduct by that of the British iron-clad squadron.

Vienna, 24th March.—The attitude of Austria towards Russia is doubtful.

St. Petersburg, 25th March.—The Czar is disposed to reduce the peace conditions, provided Turkey accepts an offensive and defensive alliance with Russia.

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25*th*.—[illegible] the critical situation, the embarkation of the homeward bound Russian troops from Sanstofanos has been countermanded.

25*th*.—It is semi-officially stated here that England's conduct, insisting on all the peace conditions being submitted to Congress, amounts to chicanery revealing offensive intentions. Le Nord (a Russian organ published in Brussels) states that it is Europe's duty to solve the crisis without England.

25*th*.—General Ignatief is going to Vienna.

Constantinople, 26*th March*.—The Grand Duke Nicholas visited the Sultan to-day at the Palace of Dalma, Batsche. The Sultan afterwards returned his visit. The Grand Duke lunches with the Sultan to-morrow. In consequence of the friendly representations of Russia, the Turks have evacuated Buyukdere.

Paris 26*th March*.—The Paris paper states that France will not participate in the European Congress unless all the Powers are represented.

Bucharest, 26*th March*.—Both houses of the Roumanian legislature have unanimously rejected the exchange of Bessarabia for the Dobrudscha.

London, 24*th March*.—The increase in the armaments of Great Britain is going on continuously.

25*th*.—In the House of Commons, the Under-Secretary for Foriegn Affairs, replying to a question, said that two Turkish garrisons in Crete had surrendered, and that no portion of the interior of the island was now under Turkish authority. The Secretary of State for India, in reply to a question, said he regretted the removal of Mr. Oliphant from the Nizams' service, and that the motive was a political one.

27*th*.—Negotiations in connection with a European congress are at a deadlock. A letter has been sent by the Pope to the Czar and the Emperor of Germany couched in a conciliatory spirit.

28*th*.—It is semi-officially stated at St. Petersburgh that General Ignatief is charged with a Diplomatic Mission, to induce Austria to inform the British Government that it must not reckon on Austrian support.

28*th*.—Lord Derby resigned to-day. A Special Cabinet Council was held to-day, to consider Russia's reply respecting the Peace conditions. In the House of Commons, this evening, Sir Stafford Northcote, replying to a question; said the Russian reply respecting all the Peace conditions being submitted to the Congress was received by Government yesterday. Russia adheres to her previous declaration that the Powers may raise such questions as they think fit, but Russia reserves to herself the liberty to accept or decline their discussion. This, Sir Stafford said, closes the diplomatic correspondence.

29*th*.—In the House of Lords, last night, Lord Beaconsfield explained that all hopes of a Congress meeting having ceased, and the balance of power in the Mediterranean being disturbed, the Government having advised Her Majesty, had called out the Reserve forces, and that Lord Derby, objecting to this step, had resigned.

In the House of Commons, last night, Mr. Gathorne Hardy, replying to a question, said the Reserves that had been called out were the first Army Reserve and the Militia Reserves, altogether amounting to 38,000 men. The Militia, he said, will be only embodied in the event of a British expeditionary force being despatched to the East.

29*th*.—All troopships are being prepared for the sea. It is asserted that Austria is mediating between England and Russia, and relative to the European Congress. In the House of Lords this evening Lord Beaconsfield, in reply to a question, said that a message from the Queen, relative to calling out Reserves, would be presented to Parliament on the 1st of April and its discussion fixed for the 4th. In the House of Commons Sir Stafford Northcote, replying to a question, said that to-morrow communication of diplomatic correspondence concerning the Congress would be made to the House. The British Government, he said, felt that time had come for decided steps, and that the Parliament should be consulted. He denied that Government had thrown obstacles in the way of the Congress meeting, but desired only that the treaty of peace should form the basis of discussion.

30*th*.—Lord Salisbury will succeed Lord Derby. It is expected that Mr. Gathorne Hardy will receive a peerage and succeed Lord Salisbury and that Colonel Stanley will succeed Mr. Gathorne Hardy. The Russian military authorities have requested the Servian army corps to occupy Sofia, the Russian troops there having been ordered to join the Russian army near Constantinople.

30*th*.—A Diplomatic correspondence relative to the Congress has been made known, but only confirms previous telegrams on the subject.

St. Petersburgh, 30*th March*.—The *Journal de St. Petersbngh* states that the balance of power in the Mediterranean is only threatened by the British iron-clad Squadron being in the Sea of Marmora. Calling out the English reserve forces is regarded by Russia as a fresh provocation. The *Journal* further states that Russia is ready to forcibly defend the fruits of war.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals:—1. Financial Statements for 1878-79. 2. Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum. Vol. 1. Inscriptions of Asoka. 3. Journal of the National Indian Association for March 1878 No. 87. 4. The Dangers and the Advantages of Parliamentary and Popular (English) Interference in the Government of India. A paper read by J. Routledge Esq. before the E. I. Association. 5. The Indian Omnibus—a monthly Literary Circular and General Advertiser published by Messrs. Wyman & Co. Calcutta. 6. The Bengal Magazine No. 58, for March 1878. 7. Report on the Third Anniversary of the Sanskrit College of H. H. the Princess of Tanjore. 8. The Hitoishi, a Bengali monthly journal edited by Pearymohun Rooder; Vol. 7, No. 3. 9. Instructions about the Hindu Mela edited by Nobogopal Mitter. 10. Messrs. Thacker Spink and Co's Literary Circular for March 1878. 11. The Militia of England, Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, Bow-Bazar Street.)

LECTURE by the Very Rev. Father Lafont, S. J., on *Thursday* the *4th April* next at 7½ P. M.

Subject: The Different kinds of Barometers.

Admission Fee for non-subscribers—*Annas* 8 for a single Lecture: Or Rs. 3 in advance for 12 consecutive Lectures.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M. D.,
29th March 1878. *Honorary Secretary*.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, APRIL 1, 1878.

THE VERNACULAR PRESS ACT.

THE more we study the details of the Vernacular Press Act, the more we regret the indecent haste with which it was passed. This Act is a blow not to the Vernacular Press only but to the cause of vernacular literature generally. Thus Section 10 of the Act provides as follows:

When any book, pamphlet, placard, broadsheet, or other document printed wholly or partially in any oriental language in British India contains any words, signs, or visible representations which are of the nature described in section three, clause (a),

or when any such book, pamphlet, placard, broadsheet, or other document has been used or attempted to be used for any purpose described in the same section, clause (b),

all printing presses, engines, machinery, types, lithographic stones, paper, and other implements, utensils, plant, and materials used or employed in or for the purpose of printing or publishing such book, pamphlet, placard, broadsheet, or other document, or found in or about any premises where the same is printed or published, and all copies of such book, pamphlet, placard, broadsheet or other document, shall be liable to be forfeited to Her Majesty.

Whenever it appears to the Local Government that anything is liable to be forfeited under this section, the Local Government may declare such thing to be forfeited and may direct any Magistrate to issue a warrant in respect of the same, and thereupon such thing may be searched for, seized, and taken away in manner provided by section nine.

The Local Government may, upon good cause shown, cancel any forfeiture under this section.

Section 3 referred to above is as under:

Any Magistrate of a district or Commissioner of Police in a Presidency town, within the local limits of whose jurisdiction any newspaper is printed or published, may, with the previous sanction of the Local Government and subject to the provisions of section five, call upon the printer and publisher of such newspaper to enter into a joint and several bond, or when the printer and publisher of such newspaper are the same person, call upon such person to enter into a bond, binding themselves or himself, as the case may be, in such sum as the Local Government thinks fit, not to—

(a) print or publsh in such newspaper any words, signs, or visible representations, likely to excite disaffection to the Government established by law in British India or antipathy between any persons of different races, castes, religions, or sects in British India; or

(b) use or attempt to use such newspaper for the purpose of putting any person in fear or causing annoyance to him and thereby inducing him to deliver to any person any property or valuable security, or anything signed or sealed which may be converted into a valuable security, or to give any gratification to any person, or

for the purpose of holding out any threat of injury to a public servant, or to any person in whom they or he believe or believes that public servant to be interested, and thereby inducing that public servant to do any act, or to forbear or delay to do any act, connected with the exercise of his public functions.

Under the above sections no Vernacular Press is safe. The beauty of these provisions is that the really guilty party will not be punished, but an innocent man, who takes to printing as a means of livelihood, will be subject to the pains and penalties of the law. The author, who will be the really guilty party, in case he writes any thing, which comes under the prohibitory clause, goes scot-free, but the innocent printer or publisher suffers. Is this justice? The printers and publishers of vernacular works are generally not lettered men; in printing any book or any paper they of course take the precaution of identifying the writer, and as they execute only mechanical work, it is the writer who ought to be held responsible for the contents of the publication. But unfortunately the legislature has not taken this common sense view; it has reversed the responsibility and put it on the wrong shoulder. The writer will be responsible under the general law, but the printer and publisher have been brought under this exceptional law. And why? We confess we are obtuse enough not to understand the reason. Although long addresses were delivered in the Council justifying the necessity of a restrictive law for the Vernacular Press, not a word was said about the vernacular books, and yet the general vernacular literature has been put in irons. Let us consider what will be the practical effect of this repressive measure upon vernacular literature. Printing in the vernacular as a trade is sure to suffer. The poor ignorant printer will be in a difficult position; it will be hard for him to decide what may or may not come under the prohibitory clauses of the Act, and he will therefore be obliged, except in clear cases, to refuse to publish a book. The result as a matter of course will be the repression not of so-called seditious literature but of general literature. We do not believe that the legislature deliberately contemplated such a deplorable result, but it is inevitable. The revival of vernacular literature is the glory of the British Government in India. For the last hundred years it has given every encouragement, directly and indirectly, to the promotion of vernacular literature, and now by a few lines it has undone the work of a century. No nation, says Carlyle, can become great without a national literature. Our rulers profess that it is their mission to resuscitate the nation, and a national literature is a potent means of regenerating the nation. Hitherto it had fulfilled this mission nobly; but all on a sudden it has made a sad retrogression. What is the cause of this? Echo answers what?

The proprietors of vernacular presses, which print vernacular works, are placed in a worse position than the proprietors of the vernacular newspaper press. The latter are permitted to submit to a Government censor all that is intended to be published in a vernacular newspaper and when the *imprimatur* of the censor is given, any thing approved by him may be published in a vernacular paper. Thus Section 5 says:

When any publisher or printer is called upon by a Magistrate or Commissioner of Police to execute a bond under this Act in respect of any newspaper, the publisher of such newspaper may deliver to such Magistrate or Commissioner an undertaking in writing to the effect that no words, signs, or visible representations shall, during the year next following the date of such undertaking, be printed or published in such newspaper which have not previously been submitted to such officer as the Local Government may appoint in this behalf, by name or in virtue of his office, or which on being so submitted have been objected to by such officer.

When such undertaking had been so delivered, no such bond or deposit shall be required from the publisher or printer of such newspaper during the said year.

Whether such a provision has been judicious or not is a different question, for we are of opinion that when the Government takes the responsibility of sanctioning what ought to appear in a vernacular paper, it practically endorses the statements and sentiments so sanctioned, and this is a position which to our mind the Government ought not to take. But if a censor protects a vernacular newspaper press, why should not the same agency have been provided for the publication of vernacular books? The printer or publisher would have then submitted to the censor any work about the character of which he might not be quite sure, but this opportunity is denied to him. The whole responsibility of judging the character of a book to be printed by him is thrown upon him, and this provision will, we fear, prove a powerful deterrent to vernacular books and publications generally. We are surprised that the invidious distinction thus made between the general Vernacular Press, and the vernacular Newspaper Press did not strike the Council. Suppose an ignorant printer should print a vernacular work, for which under section 3 quoted above, the writer would not be punished, but the printer would be ruined. The Government may not like to posecute the author, because it seems to hold that such prosecution tends to make the guilty man a martyr, but nothing will save the printer, though he may be quite innocent. In his case he cannot even prefer an appeal to the Governor

General. It will be thus seen that the provisions of the Act, which apply to the general vernacular press, are not justified by the equities of the case, while they are calculated to prove highly mischievous in practice. The new Act may therefore be justly bewailed as a national calamity. We feel confident that the Government would not have enacted into law these retrogressive provisions, if it had carefully weighed their injurious tendencies on the general literature of the country, but there was no time for deliberation—the Bill was passed at one sitting and the outside public had no opportunity of pointing out its defects. Even the members of the Council had not sufficient time to consider the details of the Bill. They were ignorant of the provisions of the Bill till the eve of its enactment. We hope the Government will not enforce the sections relative to the general vernacular press. A greater misfortune cannot befall the nation than the repression of its literature.

WHAT IS LOYALTY?

WHAT is Truth?—said the jesting Pilate and would not wait for an answer. What is Loyalty? is the question of the hour in India; but as our interrogators are not in a jesting mood they will perhaps wait if we endeavour to give an answer to it. Our contemporary of the *Englishman* thus defines Indian Loyalty: "The great mass of the people are still loyal, though with a somewhat cold and negative loyalty, to the British Government, as they would be to any government that secured them a fair degree of protection in their daily avocations, and the plutocracy of India, including the baniah class, are loyal to the British Government with a selfish, calculating loyalty, as men who have much to lose always are loyal to a strong government." Now, what is Loyalty? It is allegiance to the ruling power for protection received. That power would have no right to the allegiance of its subjects, if it did not fulfil its duties. If it did not offer protection to their person or property from external aggression and internal commotion, from the attacks of the unruly and the machinations of the wicked; if it did not give fair play to the springs of industry and allow the people subject to its sway freedom to pursue their callings in peace and security; if it did not make the weal of the community, whose trusted guardian it is, the object of its labors, what right would it have to claim this allegiance? So loyalty is, in mercantile parlance, an exchangeable commodity. It is an exchange for value received. It is necessarily calculating, and cannot be otherwise under any form of Government. It is because the British Government is a blessing to the country, the people are attached and loyal to it. Why our contemporary calls this feeling a "cold and negative loyalty," we cannot understand. We can assure him that however bitterly our countrymen may complain of particular measures of Government or the arbitary acts of particular officers, they do not want a change of rule, that they are fully alive to the civilizing, progressive, and beneficent character of the British Government, and that they would consider it a national calamity if the English should withdraw from the country. But this feeling, we believe no right-minded man will deny, is quite compatible with free and legitimate criticisms of public measures and men. These criticisms do not imply a desire or intention to subvert the Government; they are addressed to the Government with a view to the correction of abuses; they are made in obedience to the Law, the supremacy of which is the only security for the proper ventilation of those criticisms. But, says our contemporary, "there is a class of the population, comparatively no doubt small, but absolutely very large in number, who are animated by a more or less intense hatred both of the Englishman and of his rule in India, and to whom the seditious utterances of native editors are as balm and honey." Now, where is the proof of this assertion? We can believe there are natives, who resent in strong language any injustice done, any abuse of power committed, or any individious distinction made between the European and the Native: this resentment the *Englishman* may if it chooses construe into "intense hatred both of the Englishman and of his rule in India," but it no more resembles disloyalty than our contemporary resembles the man in the moon. Do those who give vent to such resentment wish to overthrow the Government? If the feeling had been such as our contemporary would fain persuade the public to believe, would not the people, who are said to be "loyal after an indifferent and spiritless fashion," and their expounents, who are charged with being actively disloyal, have joined the Sepoy revolt when they had such a grand opportunity for gratifying their spleen? But what do the memorable events of '57 testify? Did not the mass of the population remain steadfastly attached to the British Government? Did not their leaders or exponents, by words and deeds, stimulate their loyalty? Who were they, who rallied round Lord Canning in the hour of danger, and helped the Government with counsels, men, materials, and money? Was not that statesman in that perilous moment thwarted, abused, and hampered by his own countrymen, and did he not, by his implicit reliance upon the devoted loyalty and attachment of the people, save the empire? Is our contemporary aware that when his Lordship was most outrageously assailed by his "malcontent" countrymen, he used to send a dozen copies of this journal to his friends in England as containing the best defence of his policy and measures? How many Europeans, their wives and children were not saved in that crisis by the good offices of loyal and sympathizing natives, who passed through that fiery ordeal at considerable self-sacrifice and at imminent risk to themselves? All this is now forgotten; all these active acts of loyalty are now attributed to "an indifferent and spiritless loyalty."! Oh! what a change has come over the spirit of Anglo-Indian feeling?

Having come to the conclusion that the loyalty of the mass of the people of India is "selfish and calculating loyalty," and a section of them are "animated by a more or less intense hatred of the Englishman and of his rule in India," our contemporary propounds the cause of this unfortunate phenomenon, particularly with regard to the latter. He says:

> To this section of the population our schools and universities have contributed, and are still annually contributing a large and noisy quota; men to whom education has taught discontentment and ambition, while it has not only failed to supply them with the means of allaying the one or gratifying the other, but has rendered the old *modus vivendi* intolerable to them. This class it is to whom the vernacular editor commonly belongs, and for whom he chiefly writes. Even if he possessed the self-restraint necessary to enable him to conceal his own feelings, he would not be mortal if he resisted the temptation to consult the tastes of his readers. The case of the men against whom the Vernacular Press Act is directed is, in short, not that of a few isolated individuals endeavouring to incite their readers to sedition; nor is it the case of a few isolated individuals writing merely for the pleasure of giving vent to their own feelings. It is the ordinary case of demand determining supply, of manufacturers accommodating their wares to the tastes of their constituency. The seditious vernacular editor does not represent the feelings of the mass of his fellow countrymen, it is true; but then he does not write for the mass of his fellow countrymen. That he does represent the feelings of the majority of those for whom he writes, we entertain no manner of doubt. However much the Vernacular Press Act may tend to check the growth of this class, it will certainly have no tendency to convert it. Nor will it tend to prevent our educational system from developing a state of discontent which is independent of the artificial stimulus of newspaper articles.

So education and disaffection go hand in hand, and therefore education should be put down with a high hand! This is the deliberate opinion of one of the leading organs of the English public in India, one which by the name it has adopted claims to be regarded as the representative of John Bull, and which seeks to represent the better class of English opinion in the East. Could anything be more sad and humiliating than this declaration of opinion by a paper, which did much in the days of Stocqueler and Cobb Hurry to instil into the educated native the very spirit of independence, that is now condemned, which was always in the van in opposing abuse of authority, oppression, official caprice and high-handedness, and which owed its rise to the bold and uncompromising part it took in the march of thought in India? Education is dangerous, because it opens the eyes of the people to the defects of English rule! Education is dangerous, because it fills the educated mind with ambition! Education is dangerous, because if the ambitious do not get justice they become discontented! Education is dangerous, because it "is a compound if not essentially unwholesome, entirely unsuited to the constitution of the natives." We cannot say how far the *Englishman*, in writing thus, represents the feelings and opinions of his countrymen on this subject, but happily our rulers think differently. The considerations which our contemporary has advanced have been ever and anon urged by a class of bigoted and narrow-minded Englishmen against the educational policy of the Government; but our statesmen have, be it said to their glory, always been opposed to those views. Thus Lord Mayo delivered himself at the Convocation of the Calcutta University in 1869:

> "There was a time, Gentlemen, when doubts would have been entertained as to the prudence and expediency of offering to the natives of India a wide-spread system of national education, nor were these doubts alone confined to India.
>
> Many there were in past times who held—and even men of authority and knowledge were known to express such an opinion—that the indiscriminate diffusion of education might have the effect of weakening Government—of making the rich and the great more overbearing and more oppressive, and the poor more discontented with their lot. But I believe that these notions belonged to the fossil era of thought. If they are still entertained by any number of persons, their fallacy is so well ascertained that the holders of them content themselves with impressing their views on their friends in private. Gentlemen, the course that has been taken in this country, with regard to this great question, was taken for no political object. Those great and wise men, who at no very distant time established that system, from which, though still in its infancy, you have already so much benefitted, never waited to consider whether what they were doing would strengthen or weaken the hands of the Government. They believed that to offer the means of acquiring knowledge to the inhabitants of this great continent was a sacred and a paramount duty and they went forward in their work without fear or hesitation. To your fellow-subjects of the United Kingdom, Parliament and Government have made the most strenuous exertions to extend the means of diffusing knowledge, and to enlist on the side of education the sympathies of the entire nation. To you the same advantages have been given, and as nearly as possible the same system has been established in your Schools Colleges, and Universities, as is in operation at home, the determination on the part of your rulers being to do in this matter what is right, and to leave the results in the hands of God. But be that as it may, I can frankly say, as the chief administrator of a Government that walks in the light of day, and courts publicity for all its acts, that we fear not any investigation that the lamp of knowledge may cast upon our path. Compare your laws—the laws by which you are governed—compare them with those which have been devised by sages and learned men of every class, creed, and age, and say—"Are they not good?" Read history, and contrast the system of Government under which you live with those which, for centuries, have existed in this country. Does the present system lose by comparison? Look to the great works which are being daily carried on around you—works by which the life-giving stream is carried to the doors of the homes of the poor—works by which communication by signal, by letter, or in person have been accelerated in a manner that is almost fabulous! Think on all these things, and consider whether education will not enable you to appreciate the system which has produced such results. Can we, whose proudest boast is, that during our existence as a nation we have been the pioneers of civilization and progress in every corner of the world—can we dread the increase of knowledge, or the development of learning? No, Gentlemen, we offer you all these great facilities for the acquirement of knowledge, and invite you to accompany us on our course, unconditionally, freely, willingly, unhesitatingly, and ungrudgingly. At the same time I am not without hope that perhaps in the establishment of the School, the College, and the University, we may be weaving a golden band which may bind in closer union the subjects of our Queen, be they dark or fair, whether they reside in the East or the West, or are members of those communities which are now bursting into life in the islands of the Southern Seas."

How noble, how just, how statesmanlike! Just nine years ago these were the sentiments of the Head of the Government. Lord Mayo said, "we fear not any investigation that the lamp of knowledge may cast upon our path." Lord Lytton has shut up the way to such investigation so far as the Vernacular Press is concerned—and the *Englishman* would put out the "lamp of knowledge" altogether. Oh! what a falling-off is here!

One word more. The *Englishman* thus concludes its article under comment: "To abolish the Educational Department, would no doubt appear to many people to be a very retrograde and even brutal proceeding. Yet we are inclined to think it would be an immense blessing to the people of India in the future, not if the stream of knowledge were to be for ever cut off from them, but if the mind of the Government on the subject of its educational system could be reduced to a *tabula rasa*, and a new policy worked out upon entirely different lines." This we suppose means the policy of the three R's, which is in some quarters recommended as the substitute for liberal education. But whatever it may mean, the *Englishman* ought to know that the tide having set in cannot be put back. Like Canute it may order the sea to roll back, but will the sea obey? The Government if it likes may shut up

every school and college under State management, but will that stop English education in the country? Will not the people then undertake their own education? They may not do as much as the Government is now doing, but surely they will do enough to the discomfiture of our contemporary. Hypothetically, the Government may succeed in the path so boldly chalked out for it by the *Englishman*, if it passes a law imposing heavy pains and penalties for those who may teach or learn anEnglish book,but even then how will it dispose of the present generation—how will it make them unlearn what they have already learnt? We are sure the writer will not recommend the policy which was thought the best for removing the hedge priest from Ireland about the close of the last century. It is a pity that the *Englishman* has not developed this part of its grand scheme to produce the light of loyalty by enveloping the land with the darkness of ignorance. He will lay the people under great obligation if he will favor them with a full outline of his scheme of suppressing education. He ought to do something more. He ought to know that it is the Government which is chiefly responsible for the evil of independent criticism which he seems so much to deplore. The Government has certainly done harm by giving education, but perhaps greater harm by professing principles,which it finds inconvenient to practise. If the Government had from the beginning declared that it would govern the country by the sword,that the slave had no right, and that the people of India should therefore remain hewers of wood and drawers of water, that the conqueror had the right to rule with an iron hand, and the conquered should only obey, then our countrymen would have no just reason to grumble, for whatever the merits of such a blunt policy, the Government would not have been open to the charge of want of frankness and consistency. The people, educated or uneducated, would have then known what the Government reallly meant. This is the train of reflections suggested by the *Englishman's* article. But happily the *Englishman*, we are convinced, does not represent the sentiments of the Government on this subject. Our Government, notwithstanding the Vernacular Press Act, is far too enlightened to abdicate its glorious mission of civilizing and elevating the people of India, to substitute the sword or the iron sceptre for the vast moral lever it wields, to treat its Indian subjects as a nation of helots when England has poured out money like water for the emancipation of slaves in other climes, to envelope the land in perpetual darkness, and to base its power on brute ignorance. Its past history loudly contradicts such an assumption; its very instincts, traditions, and spirit are repugnant to it. Even in passing the Vernacular Press Act it declared that its object was the good of the people, though we may not agree with it in the view it takes of its probable effect. But articles like the one under comment in influential English papers do greater mischief than all the nonsense and wild invectives that appear in the vernacular papers. Indeed, we should like to know whether such an article does not tend to "excite antipathy between persons of different races," any attempt to which would expose a vernacular paper to the pains and penalties of the new law.

ÆTIOLOGY OF CHOLERA.

IN a brilliant letter to the *Daily Telegraph* Mr. Charles Reade has given a most vivid sketch of the characteristics of the human mind in the ancient and the modern times. "The great intellectual defect of the juvenile world," he says, "and the one which, not Christianity, but Baconism corrected was what the philosophers call '*a priori* reasoning,' or a habit of conjecture on matters where evidence was attainable. Wherever they could do it without being punished, men shut their eyes, and looked into their own minds for external truths. The husbandman did not reason so, because if he had, he would have been starved. The potter did not reason so, because all his vessels would have been spoiled in the making. The warrior did not, because he would have got killed. The Greek sculptor did not, because he would have got ridiculed. But every *unpunishable thinker* did. Their habit was 'to look into their inner consciousness,' and guess, and then state to state, and then reiterate to reiterate, and then believe from age to age, whatever had been guessed, stated and reiterated. Our habit is to doubt, observe, examine, test, and be sure; not sit up in our homes, and howl conjectures like puppy dogs blind drunk with moonshine." And what is true of the ancient and the modern world, is equally so of the differently constituted minds of different people of our own times—of the philosophic arachnidæ and the Baconian student of the 19th century. The former, the "unpunishable thinkers," still elaborate cobwebs of philosophy, "out of their own consciousness," and the latter, intelligent labourers in the fields of science, have to sweep them away at every step. And nowhere is this fact better illustrated than in the history of the ætiology of cholera. Every "unpunishable thinker" has his theory, and having once evolved it from within himself, he not only himself believes it to be a fact, but insists with all the dogged pertinacity of his nature upon its being accepted as such by the world at large; and as for every spider there are a thousand flies, he is sure to find many entrapped in his flimsy web. Thus the path of science has been infested by a large amount of nuisance, and it is no easy task to remove them. There are so many factors in connexion with all questions regarding health and disease, and the process of induction is so intricate and laborious, that few can devote the time and learning necessary to explode the theories, and even when they are exploded, those who first guess them out and then believe them to be invariable laws of nature, are not amenable to argument or reason. It is, nevertheless, interesting to observe that a most careful enquiry into the subject is being conducted by the Sanitary Commissioner with the Government of India. We have before us a report entitled "Cholera in relation to certain Physical Phenomena: a Contribution towards the special enquiry sanctioned by the Right Hon'ble the Secretaries of State for War and India," by Drs. T. R. Lewis and D. D. Cunnigham, Special Assistants to the Sanitary Commissioner. The authors have no idola of their own. In the true spirit of Baconism, they have entered into their task with the sole object of discovering the truth. They take nothing for granted. They subject every thing to test. They weigh the evidence before them with the impartiality of an honest judge; and the "Contribution" they have made to the cause of knowledge is by far the most valuable that we have had to notice for some time. In the history of cholera few have more effectually swept the cobwebs of science than they; and we heartily congratulate them on their success. They have in this report devoted special chapters to Calcutta, and these appear to us the most interesting. They remark, "of all regions where the nature of the influence of seasonal conditions on the prevalence of cholera can be enquired into, the endemic area of the disease, and more especially the endemic area as represented by the lower portion of the Gangetic delta, is perhaps the best adapted to the end in view. In it the constant presence of the disease, and the regularity with which the phenomena of fluctuations in its prevalence occur, furnish data which are more readily comparable with those of a physical nature than can be attained in regions where cholera only occurs occasionally and in epidemic outbursts. The data regarding a typical locality in this area—Calcutta—have therefore been gone into at considerable length and in greater detail than has been attempted in reference to other places; but regarding almost all the localities considered in the report, sufficient data are supplied to allow of their comparison with Calcutta in most important respects." These data regarding the varying prevalence of cholera in Calcutta at different times of year are mainly derived from three sources—1st, the table published by Dr. John Macpherson in his work on "Cholera in its Home"; 2nd, that contained in the report of the Health-Officer for Calcutta for the year 1876; and 3rdly, Dr. Bryde's Statistical Tables regarding the European troops in Fort William and the inmates of the Alipore Jail. After giving a great number of tables they remark, "taking November as most nearly representing the average prevalence of the disease, and therefore as a good point of starting, we find successive diminutions in prevalence during December and January, a rapid rise in February, continuing to the maximum in March and April, a marked diminution in May, continued through June, to a minimum in July, August and September, and finally a rise in October to reach the average in November. Stating the facts of prevalence in most general terms, it may be said that there are four months in which the prevalence of cholera greatly exceeds the average, three months in which it falls far short of it, and five months in which it ranges round it, the prevalence in November approaching it more nearly than that of any other month." They then analyze the different causes, which are supposed to influence the generation of cholera, and then compare the characteristic conditions of Calcutta and Lahore as representing the endemic and non-endemic areas. With regard to the different prevailing theories and their value they remark:

The most important theories are the following:

1*st*.—That which regards cholera as essentially caused by direct contagion,—by the direct transfer of a poison, manufactured within the human organism, from one person to another: According to it, any fluctuations in the prevalence of cholera must be dependent on corresponding fluctuations, either in opportunity of transfer, or in the susceptibility of human beings to the influence of the poison.

2*nd*.—The so-called 'water theory:' In this, also, the human organism is regarded as the factory in which a specific poison is produced. By one set of the supporters of the theory, water is regarded merely as one means—although by far the most important and influential means—by which the poison is diffused,—is transferred from one person to another. By other authorities, however, water is regarded as a mere vehicle, but as the medium in which the material produced within the human organism attains its maximum of virulence. According to this theory, fluctuations in the prevalence of cholera must essentially depend on corresponding fluctuations in conditions determining, or facilitating, the transfer of materials produced within the human organism to the water, and specially to the drinking water.

3*rd*.—The theory which, while regarding the drinking water of a locality as essentially determining the prevalence of cholera in it, does not regard its influence as necessarily dependent on the introduction of any specific material manufactured within the bodies of those suffering from the disease: It holds that the drinking water determines prevalence, both by its effect on personal susceptibility, and by being the essential medium in which the specific poison is developed. In any case, the quality of drinking water of a locality is regarded as the essential determinant of the fluctuations in the prevalence of cholera in it at different periods. Any fluctuations of prevalence in localities in which cholera is endemic are regarded as depending on corresponding fluctuations in the quality of the water, increase and decrease in prevalence being due to increase and decrease in the impurity of the water.

4*th*.—The theory which regards the soil as the essential site of the processes resulting in the production of the material inducing cholera: The majority of the adherents of this theory regard the air as the vehicle, by means of which the material produced in the soil is conveyed to human beings, so as to cause the disease in them; but it is obvious, that questions of vehicle are really subordinate here, and that materials manufactured in the soil may reach the human subject by more than one path. According to this view, fluctuations in prevalence of cholera are dependent on corresponding fluctuations in the condition of the soil, which may act either on the manufacture or the diffusion of the specific materials.

We have now to enquire how far each of these theories is capable of accounting for the phenomena of seasonal fluctuations exhibited by the prevalence of cholera in Calcutta.

1*st*.—The theory of direct contagion. If prevalence were dependent on direct contagion, the maximum prevalence should occur at those times of year when the population is most liable to close association. As a fact, the maximum prevalence in Calcutta occurs during a period when there is less crowding together, or close association of the population, than in either of the periods immediately preceding and following it.

2*nd*.—The water-theory,' as ordinarily understood: This theory, also, fails to explain the phenomena of seasonal fluctuation in prevalence, or to gain any support from them. According to it, maximum prevalence ought to occur at that period of the year when the meteorological conditions are of a nature calculated to

facilitate the entrance into the drinking water of materials derived from the bodies of those suffering from the disease, and specially of the materials of the intestinal excretions. The period during which most material is washed into the tanks and other bodies of water, which, until quite recently, constituted the universal sources of drinking water in Calcutta, is, that of those months in which the rainfall is greatest and characterised by the greatest heaviness of individual falls. These months are June, July, August and September; but the first of these is a month of low medium, while the three others are months of minimum prevalence. With reference to the latter three months, it may be argued that although the inwash of materials is then great, the inwash of the specific meterial producing cholera is not so, as it has been in great part removed from the surface of the soil by previous rainfall, and that the influence of what still remains to be washed is neutralised by the coincident dilution of the sources of drinking water.

3rd.—The theory which regards the degree of impurity of the drinking water as the essential determinant of the prevalence of cholera: According to this theory, the periodic fluctuations in the prevalence of cholera in a locality in which the disease is endemic are dependent on corresponding variations in the degree of impurity of the water-supply. In so far as the general physical conditions of locality are concerned, the degree of impurity of the water must depend on the degree to which the entrance of extraneous impurities is facilitated, and on influences determining the relative proportions of the impurities to the mass of water containing them. The conditions favouring the entrance of foreign matters in general into the sources of water-supply are precisely those described previously as favouring the entrance of specific materials; and the conditions favouring concentration of impurity are those under which the general mass of water is reduced to less bulk. Consequently, according to this theory, the periodic prevalence of cholera in Calcutta ought to reach during the hot and dry season, when concentration attains a maximum, and during the commencement of the rains, when there is great inwash of extraneous impurities, without an increase in the mass of the water, calculated to do more than neutralise this addition.

The phenomena presented by the cholera-prevalence of the hot and dry months, at first sight, appear to afford strong confirmatory evidence to the theory; for the season of maximum prevalence occurs then, coincidently with the season of lowest water-level. When, however, the phenomena of individual months of the hot and dry season are examined, the results are not so favourable to it. In May the water-level reaches its lowest, the conditions affecting evaporation being, apparently, more than sufficient to neutralise the effect of the slight excess in the rainfall over that of April. In May, then, the sources of water-supply are reduced to their smallest bulk, and the concentration of the impurities in them reaches a maximum; and consequently, according to the theory, the cholera-prevalence of the hot and dry season ought to come to a climax then. On the contrary, however, the prevalence in May is much less than in either of the preceding months.

The phenomena of June do not show any closer agreement with the requirements of the theory. At this time, according to the theory, cholera-prevalence ought to continue at a maximum; for, although the mass of water in the sources of water-supply undergoes considerable increase, the conditions of rainfall are such as to ensure great inwash of materials from the soil, which has not been purified by any great previous rainfall. June is, however, a month of low medium, not of maximum prevalence. November, also, presents great difficulties to the acceptation of any such explanation of the phenomena of periodic fluctuations in prevalence. In November conditions facilitating inwash of extraneous materials are at a minimum, and the mass of water is greater than in either June or July. The prevalence in November ought, therefore, to be lower than that in June and July; but, on the contrary, it is very much higher than in these months.

4*th*.—The 'Soil theory': The theories which have, been considered hitherto assume that the nature of the specific cause of cholera, or, at all events, that the conditions determining the production of the specific cause, are already definitely ascertained. The soil theory, however, does not go so far; and the difficulty of determining the bearing of our data upon it is proportionately enhanced thereby. All that it definitely affirms is, that the specific cause of cholera is developed in the layer of soil lying above the water-level or first impermeable stratum in a locality; and that, therefore, the development must depend on certain conditions of that layer. These conditions are, admittedly, quite undetermined, but must be supposed to be constantly existent, in greater or less degree, within the areas in which the disease is endemic. According to it, fluctuation in prevalence in any endemic locality must be dependent on corresponding fluctuations either in conditions affecting the development of the poison in the soil, or on conditions determining its diffusion from the soil.

So long as the conditions supposed to secure development of the poison are not distinctly defined, it is evident, that an endemic locality affords little field for testing the theory in regard to the relation of prevalence of the disease to influences calculated to favour its productions. Attention must, therefore, be mainly directed to prevalence regarded as dependent on diffusion; but even regarding questions of production, there are certain phenomena of prevalence, which admit of comparison with the theory. In any locality, like Calcutta, where the layer of soil above the water-level is always of comparatively little depth, and of tolerably uniform structure throughout, the theory may be supposed to assume, that, other things being equal, the amount of the specific material developed ought to increase with the mass of generating stratum. From this point of view, the maximum and minimum of prevalence ought to coincide with the maximum and minimum depression of the water-level, which is very much what we have previously ascertained to occur in reality.

In proceeding to consider cholera-prevalence as an expression of the degree of diffusion of the poison, it must be borne in mind that there are two main channels by which materials developed in the soil may reach the human beings in any locality. These are the water and the air occupying the interspaces between the solid constituents of the soil. If the water of the soil be regarded as the means of diffusion of the poison, the phenomena of prevalence in Calcutta present the same difficulties to this theory as they do to those previously considered. This, however, is not the case if the air be regarded as the channel traversed by the poison in passing from the soil to the subjects of the disease. On this hypothesis, maximum and minimum of prevalence ought to coincide with maximum and minimum of soil-ventilation. According to our data the maximum of soil-ventilation occurs during March and April, coincidently with the maximum of prevalence; and minimum soil-ventilation occurs during the rainy season, the period of minimum prevalence. So far, however, as diffusion alone is regarded as determining prevalence, the phenomena of prevalence in Calcutta do not coincide accurately with the requirements of the theory. The depression of prevalence in December and January, and again in May, remains inexplicable; and all that can be positively affirmed is, that the difficulties opposed by the phenomena of periodic fluctuation in the prevalence of cholera in Calcutta to the soil theory, are less than those encountered by any of the other current doctrines regarding the essential cause of the disease.

The extract is long, but it will amply repay perusal. It demonstrates with geometric precision the utter worthlessness of the theories which have hitherto been accepted as axioms. It points out with great clearness the folly of depending upon such theories as our guide to sanitary action. It leads to the conclusion that the raid now being carried on against Calcutta tanks and wells is a mistaken one, causing unnecessary waste of public funds, and mischievous destruction of private property. It shows that our municipal authorities are running after bogies. May we hope that it will suffice to knock out of men in authority the cobwebs which fill their heads! The Commissioners of Calcutta generally are not professional men and are obliged to depend upon their professional advisers; but the Commissioners are responsible to the rate-payers which their advisers are not. It behoves the Commissioners, therefore, if they wish to be true to themselves and their clients, to be on their guard, and not to convert themselves into flies entrapped in the meshes of scientific cobwebs. They and their clients will suffer for the folly, and not those who weave the webs, and have promotion and retirement looming who knows at no very distant future.

ANOTHER MYSTERIOUS MURDER.

ANOTHER mysterious murder is reported from the district of Nuddea. It was committed in the sub-division of Meherpore. The facts of the case are contained in the following depositions before and judgment of Mr. Taylor, the Joint-Magistrate, whom the reader might recognize as the Solon, who convicted the two unfortunate witnesses in the Lokenathpore case:

Deposition of Gendoo Bewa on solemn affirmation, aged about 60 years, 31st October, 1877.

I am living with my son. One of my sons Munsoff died about 6 months ago in Jaista.

I saw him lying dead in Tentulbariah, Ramdebpore. I had seen him alive in Bhatpara on Friday and saw him *dead next day Saturday. He left our house at Bhatpara in the morning. He went with the defendants Situl* and Jadu. Situl is Mr White's table servant. They took my son off against his will. They told him that his fine would be settled in the Tentulbariah factory.

He never returned home. About 9 or 10 A.M., next morning on information received from Gholam I went to Ramdebpore and saw the corpse lying near the ghat, in a rice-field about a russi from Jadub's house. The skin was off the elbows and knees and his eyes were swollen There were ashes from a cowshed on his hair. His hair and clothes were not wet. There was mud on his feet. He had no disease or illness.

My son's wife was at home when my son was called away. I was husking rice at that time. The defendants came into our house to call my son. My son made no objection to going. The defendants only spoke to him. They used no violence.

(Sd.) F. B. TAYLOR.
31, 10, 1877.

Deposition of Kudrat Sheik on solemn affirmation, aged 23 years, 31st October, 1877.

I am a cultivator. Munsaff the deceased was my brother. He is dead, our buffaloes went into Mr. White's garden and he ordered a fine of Rs. 7, including Re. 1, as payadha's fee. That was at the beginning of Jaista.

Five men were fined I was not there. Two of our buffaloes went into the garden and 4 others.

Mr. White went off to Tentulbariah. The defendants took my brother to that place to pay his fine. They passed me on the way which I was ploughing. My brother went alone one road and the defendants along another road. They all three passed me together. I meant that my brother left them and came and spoke to me and told me that they were taking him away. He joined them immediately. The path they took lay along the edge of my land. My brother never returned. Next day I heard he was dead. About 10 o'clock I heard that I went at once to Tentulbaria and saw the corpse near Jadu the defendants' house. It was covered with a cloth. The eyes were blood-shot and the neck swollen. My mother went with me. Near the elbow and thigh, on the right side blood was flowing from the nose. There was fresh blood and water flowing. The skin was also grazed on the right temple. The body was in a rice-field.

I was ploughing alone. No one was near me. I told no one that my brother has been carried off. The day after I saw the corpse the jamadar (head constable) of Gangri arrived on the spot. I told the jamadar that I had seen my brother taken.

After one or two days the sub-Inspector himself went to the spot.

The Kishnaghur Police came much later, near the end of Jaista. The sub-divisional officer of Meherpore also went, I made a deposition before him. The Mussulman Darogah came twice to investigate sometime after. I told the Meherpore Magistrate what I have said to-day. It was in the Tentulbariah Golabari.

To Court. I told the Meherpore Magistrate that Situl, Jadu and my brother went together to Tentulbariah, I am sure of this.

The Mussulman has been in our village last month, and thus I made a statement to him.

(Sd.) F. B. TAYLOR.
31, 10, 1877.

Deposition of Majam Sheik aged about 35 years, on solemn affirmation. 31st October, 1877.

I am a cultivator, I was fined by Mr. White because my buffaloe damaged his garden. Five of us were fined including Munsaff, Nobin, Koilash, Sashi, and I paid a rupee. I do not know about Munsaff

I know the Bairagi defendant, he begs in our village. I knew deceased well. He had no disease.

(Sd.) F. B. Taylor.
31, 10. 1877.

Deposition of Nobin Sheik aged about 28 years on solemn affirmation, 31st October, 1877. I am a cultivator. I know Munsoff Sheik, I hear he is dead. I have been fined by the planter of Tentulbariah. He said my buffaloes damaged his garden. Several of us were fined among them Munsaff. He died 5 or 6 days after. Four of us paid a rupee. Munsaff was not one.

(Sd.) F. B. TAYLOR.
31, 10, 1877.

Deposition of Gholam Sheik aged about 35 years on solemn affirmation, 31st October, 1877. I am a labourer. The deceased was my cousin. He died in Jaista. He came to my house on Friday in Jaista about noon or a little before. He came alone.

He told me that he had been fined because his buffaloes had gone into the Shahib's Garden and that he had been forcibly brought to the village. He went away at once.

To Court. Munsaff said Jadu and Shital had brought him from his village (Dharya Angache). I told this to the sub-divisional officer of Meherpore at Tentulbariah, I did say that Munsaff had told me Jadu had promised to get his fine remitted. I remember now he did not say he had been brought to the village (Dharya laiyajawa). He did say that both Sital and Jadu had told him they could settle his business.

The deceased came back to me in the evening and stayed with me in the evening. Again in the morning he went off to see Jadu. I did not go with him. I went to work in Bharat Biswas's house in Ramdebpore. I followed Munsaff. The previous evening I had gone with Munsaff to Jadu's house but Jadu did not come out in answer. He told Munsaff he could not go there as he was with his children.

He really did not reply. I made a mistake when I said he did reply. (The question was how did you know Jadu was at home? question repeated) I heard Jadu talking to his children. Munsaff left me next morning and went out sometime before I started.

I saw him start and he started to go round the khal to Jadu's house. I went to Bharo's house crossing the khal. While I was working Jadu called out "Golam, your brother is dead, he is drowned." That was about 6 dandas of the day. I mean Jadu the defendant. I ran off and found Munsaff lying with his head and breast under water. His feet were on the mud at the edge of the khal I found I could not take him up alone and so I called Kiffyat and we raised him. I saw Jadu and Mayazun on the spot when I arrived. I went off and told my aunt at Bhatpara about 4 or 5 miles from Tentulbariah.

I went to Bharos just after sunrise. I left my work when Jadu called. I had not seen Jadu before on that day. Bharos house is 3 or 4 rusies from Jadu's-kifat, Dwarik, Gopi, and Goni were working with me. Bharos was not there. These men followed me.

(Sd.) F. B. Taylor.
31, 10, 1877.

Deposition of Mamlat Sheik, aged about 17 years, on solemn affirmation, 31st October, 1877.

I am a labourer. I work sometimes in Ramdebpore. I do not know Munsaff Sheik of Bhatpara. I do know the Magistrate on the Bench. I saw him in Meherpore. I cannot remember what I told him then. I never worked for Mr. White. I never was his cow-boy. I did tell the Magistrate I was. I said so because I had been beaten. I said I had not been beaten because I was afraid of a second beating. None of the police were present when I gave my deposition and the Magistrate warned me to speak the truth and be afraid of no one. I did say that Jadu, Balai, and Krista and Jagis beat Munsaff to death on Mr. White's order and I did say that I saw them beat him. These assertions were false and I made them for fear of being beaten. The following day two men of our village came and made complaints that they had been beaten and told to say that they had seen the deceased killed.

This Darogah (Buzle Hoshen) is known to me. He came to our village. I never went to any of the police before he came. Gopal Constable beat me.

(Sd.) F. B. TAYLOR.
31, 10, 1877.

This witness will give bail in Rs. 100 to appear before me on the 7th of November. It appears that he had made a wilfully false statement and the question of his prosecution must be considered.

(Sd.) F. B. TAYLOR.
31, 10, 1877.

Deposition of Matthasi Molla aged about 30 years on solemn affirmation 31, 10, 77.

I am a cultivator and priest. I did not know Munsaff Sheik. I was on the Tentulbariah side. I saw the defendants Jadu and Kristo and Balai Jugi throw a body into the khal from the Ramdebpore side. It was at the time men go out to their labour. f

The corpse fell with its head under water, the rest of the body fell on the bank. Jadu called out "Golam, your brother is dead." Golam ran up. Mahomed Sheik was near me. I saw Golam and Kifyat take the body out of the water.

I heard that the dead man was Munsaff Sheik of Bhatpara It was in Jaista. I was about a russy from the men on the other side. I had gone down to wash my mouth. The place is about 3 russy from my house. I told no one what I had seen. I cannot remember whether the men I have mentioned had clothes on their shoulders.

They came and went hastily. I did not notice whether their faces were covered. I did not notice who held his hands or feet. The sun had risen at that time. I did not call out for help when I saw that Golam and Kifyat ran up together. I recognized no one else. Goni came up before Kifyat and Golam and so did others. They were men of that village but I did not recognize them. Jadu had gone away when Golam came. I said nothing to Golam and Kifyat. I told this Daroga (Buzloo Hoshein) what I had seen. I told no one before that. Several police officers had been to our village, before he came about this case. I was not asked, and so I said nothing to them. Within those three months I had told no one. When I told Buzlee Hoshein I saw him in the pound, about 2 russies from my house. I was called there by a constable, who told me I knew about the murder.

Mothur Biswas and the pound-keeper were with the Darogah and the constables. It was after night-fall the Darogah spoke to me in the presence of these people Mohammed Sheik also made a statement and so did Mamlat. I went home that night. I was in my own house on the day previous to my going into Meherpore. I am Kalachand Biswas's ryot.

To Court. Kalachand Biswas is a zemindar. He is also a dewan to the planter of the concern in which Tentulbariah is.

31*st October* 1877. F. B. TAYLOR.

Deposition of Mukundra Chundra Sen on solemn affirmation 24th November 1877.

I am a native doctor. I reside at present in Mouza Meherpore.

I myself examined the body of Munsiff Sheik after death. He had the mark of a bruise on the right elbow 2 inches long and broad Another on the right thigh 2 inches by one. Another on the right side of the back about 2 inches by 2 inches.

Another on the left side of the back one inch each way. There were red marks on the skin and the bruises extended below the surface. Similar bruises appeared under the skin of the right cheek and temple. The body was in an advanced stage of decomposition. The vessels were healthy, but the peritonium was filled with liquid and coagulated blood.

The spleen was ruptured which was the probable cause of the death. The peritonium near the spleen was much inflamed.

A little blood was issuing from the nose. The rest of the body was decomposed. I believe the rupture of the spleen was the cause of death. My examination took place at 8 A.M., on the 28th of May.

(Sd.) F. B. TAYLOR.
24, 11, 27.

JUDGMENT.

E. V. { Jadu Bairagi. / Sital Khansama.

In this case the prisoners have been charged by the police with the murder of one Munsaff Sheik.

The circumstances of the case are as follows. It appears that the deceased was fined by Mr. White, a planter, and asked the defendants to intercede for him, the second defendant being the servant and the first defendant being supposed to possess some influence with him. The deceased followed the planter to a distant factory and reached the village in the afternoon or about noon and went to seek the first defendant, whose house is close to the factory. He returned after a fruitless search of his relative Golam Sheik, and they went again but again fruitlessly to see Jadu in the evening. Next morning Golam went to his work and the deceased expressed his intention of visiting Jadu. Shortly after this Golam states that he heard Jadu calling his own name "Golam come here Munsaff is drowned," and adds that on running up he found Munsaff lying with his head under water, but the rest of his body on the ooze of the bank. When taken up he was quite dead. The medical evidence ascribes his death to rupture of the spleen. The only evidence beyond what I have stated is that of Matam Molla, who states that he saw the defendant Jadu and three others throw the body into the khal, he himself being on the opposite side of the water.

When the police sent up the case, the witness Muoulat Sheik had given a circumstantial account of the murder of the deceased by the two defendants and some other under the direction of Mr. White. This deposition he afterwards retracted and denied all knowledge of the affair. The evidence then as it stands is exceedingly weak whether owing to the influence of the zemindar and his servants or not, I cannot say But it is so weak that I do not feel justified in committing the prisoners to take their trial upon it, especially upon so grave a charge.

The defendants are discharged under section 195 of C. P. C.

(Sd.) F. B. TAYLOR.
Offg. Joint-Magistrate.

24, 11, 1877.

Empress *vrs*,, Mamlat Sheik.

The petitioner is a youth and it is clear that on whichever side his falsehood lies, he was influenced by some one or other to make that statement. As it is impossible to prove the truth or falsehood of either of his statements he may be released from bail.

(Sd.) F. B. TAYLOR.
24, 11, 1877.

So this murder remains wholly unaccounted for. We leave it to the reader to say whether the enquiry made was sufficient. We hear that Mr. Stevens, the District Magistrate, since the Lokenathpore case agitation, is satisfied that the enquiry has not been sufficient, and that he is disposed to hold a second enquiry. We therefore withhold further comments.

DAMN-THE-LEGALITY HAGGARD.

MR. HAGGARD, the Joint-Magistrate of Serampore, is a literary man, a zealous officer, and well-meaning Magistrate, but some how or other his mental faculties cannot bear the restraint of law. This failing of his has been conspicuous in the trial of the late riot case of Serampore, which bids fair to mark an era in the history of criminal justice in that well known ex-Danish settlement. It first came under public notice by the altercation Mr. Haggard had with Mr. Jackson, Barrister-at-law, who was engaged for the defence in that case. We give below the interpellations between the bench and the bar :

Witness, in answer to questions put, stated that he had been made a co-defendant with others and convicted of the charge of rioting when the *Nawbatkhanna* in question had been pulled down.

Mr. Jackson.—I object to all this evidence. The proceedings will speak for themselves.

Government Pleader.—I will now ask the permission of the Court to treat the witness as a hostile one and cross-examine him.

Magistrate.—Very well.

Mr. Jackson.—I object to the witness being cross-examined.

Magistrate.—You cannot object to it ; you may as well object to my recording evidence.

Mr. Jackson.—Well, Sir, I ask you to make a note of my objection.

Magistrate.—No I will not.

Mr. Jackson.—Well I object. If you will not make a note of my objection, we will put in a petition as to whether I can object, or not. We will see afterwards.

Magistrate.—What do you mean by saying "We will see afterwards? Do you threaten me? Do you mean that anything will happen to the Court?"

Mr. Jackson.—I don't threaten anything. I said that we will see afterwards what we should do.

Magistrate.—Your tone has been on two or three occasions threatening towards the Court.

Mr. Jackson.—When ?

Magistrate.—To-day as well as last Monday. I have had several Counsel appear before me in this Court, but they have never behaved as you do.

Mr. Jackson.—I, too, have heard a great deal from Counsel who have attended this Court.

Magistrate (excitedly).—Do not frown at me, Sir.

Mr. Jackson (laughing).—I don't know that I am frowning-I have not got my muscles or my face under control.

Magistrate.—Evidently not.

Mr. Jackson.—Well, really, I must leave this Court. I cannot remain here any longer. I must ask you, Sir, to adjourn the case, to enable the accused to get other Counsel, and the High Court will decide whether you or I am in the right.

[Mr. Jackson here folded his brief, and, taking up his papers, was about to leave.]

Magistrate.—I must ask you not to leave the Court till you have heard what I have to say.

Mr. Jackson.— Very well, I will sit down.

Magistrate.—Sitting down as you are, and without getting up from your seat, you addressed the Court saying, "We will see afterwards." I objected to that. I said that you were threatening the Court, You said that you intended no threat and that I was misquoting you. You also said that you had heard from Counsel who had attended my Court.

Mr. Jackson.—Pardon me. You first alluded to Counsel who had been practising in your Court. As for your saying, Sir, that I was frowning at you, that is not correct. I do not know that I was frowning at all. As I said, I have not got the muscles of my face under control. What one man may think a smile, another may think a frown. My language has been throughout respectful to the Court, with due regard to the interests of my clients. I have been practising as an advocate for the past ten years in a number of Mufasal Courts but I have never been treated as I have been here to-day.

Magistrate.—Well, as you will interrupt me when I speak I had better write whatever I have to say and read it to you.

The Magistrate here wrote out and read a lengthy account of what had occurred. He was frequently interrupted by Mr. Jackson, who denied that he had on the last occasion made use of any words to the effect, "We will see afterwards," towards the Court ; and he as positively stated that he had not to-day said that he had heard anything from Counsel about the *behaviour* of the Court. As the Magistrate had recorded what had taken place on the last occasion, he also hoped His Honor would not omit to record that he had told him (Mr. Jackson) "Will you sit further from this place ; the Court is not safe from you?"

The Magistrate said he would. The fact was that as Mr. Jackson, who was seated quite close, had been so loud, excited and fierce in his manner, he considered it desirable he should be at a distance. At the same time he would also mention that at the very first opportunity he had expressed his regret at the misunderstanding.

The Magistrate here spoke to the Government Pleader, asking him whether he was not aware that several members of the Calcutta Bar,—Messrs. Piffard, Woodroffe, Bourke, Bonnerjee, Monomohun Ghose, and Reilly—had appeared before him, and that nothing of a warm character had taken place.

The Government Pleader said he was aware of the fact from his own personal knowledge.

Mr. Jackson.- Will the Court record that ever since last Monday I have been sitting in the furthest place I can find in this Court.

Magistrate.—No, I will not record that.

What an edifying scene was this! How eminently was it calculated to foster in the native mind respect for the bench! But let that pass. The last case was a branch of another case, in which Mr. Haggard had convicted certain servants of Babu Gopikissen Gossain on a charge of riot, and in which Mr. Grant, the Sessions Judge, had on appeal enhanced the sentence. The extraordinary proceedings of the Magistrate and Judge were laid before a Bench of the High Court consisting of Mr. Justice Jackson and Mr. Justice Cunnigham. Mr. Justice Jackson in a luminous and elaborate judgment has quashed the proceedings of both the officers, Mr. Justice Cunningham concurring. We have not space for the whole judgment, but we give a few extracts. Mr. Justice Jackson says :

It appears to me that in the first instance the Joint-Magistrate was in error in making any order in this matter under section 530 of the Criminal Procedure Code. It seems to me that the subject-matter is one to which that section had no application. There was really no question of possession. The land was in joint possession of the disputants, and the only question was whether one of them, being a joint owner was at liberty to make use of the land in such a manner as to cause what the other joint owner chose to consider an annoyance, and against the will of that joint owner. In fact the Magistrate himself, in a passage of his judgment, seems to furnish an excellent reason why he should not exercise jurisdiction under the section. Adverting to the argument of the pleader for the defence as to the right of Gopee Kisto Gossain to forbid this mode of enjoyment of the land, he says :—"I am unable to accede to the application of this doctrine. The order says that the doctrine would be monstrous, that a co-sharer might build a house upon land held in joint partnership for his sole use," and so on. Then he goes on to say :—"The objection does not apply here, for a *nobatkhana* is not a house ; it is the flimsiest and most unsubstantial of structures. It occupies the air rather than the earth ; it is an elevated platform on which musicians may sit. The grass can grow under it, and the goats and cattle graze." The Magistrate in his argument here says that Shama Churn Lahory in erecting this *nobatkhana* chooses to occupy the air ; and although section 530 applies to land and water, it certainly does not comprehend the air. There is no doubt that the order under section 530 was beyond the power of the Magistrate, and ought not to have been made.

Evidently the Magistrate was building in the air a castle of his own, when he saw the fetters of law too strong for him. Mr. Justice Jackson continues :

The Magistrate, however, not only made that order, but has relied on it in the proceeding before us, because he has ordered a copy of it to be filed in the record, although it is manifest, from what afterwards took place, that the order he made had no effect or operation whatever ; for Gopee Kisto Gossain, being affected by it, brought a suit in the Civil Court, and that Court declared that the defendant had no right to erect a *nobutkhana* in that situation, and in fact decreed that it should be removed. But as an order under section 530 of the Criminal Procedure Code is only valid until the persons to whom possession is given is ousted by the course of law, and as the effect of the judgment of the Civil Court certainly was to oust Shama Churn Lahory, the order of the Magistrate ought not to have been referred to in any further proceeding. That order of the Civil Court, I understand, was not made the subject of appeal. It is not our business to consider the correctness of that order. Undoubtedly, as far as the parties are concerned, it is a valid decision of a competent court, and the Magistrate as well as the parties are bound to respect it.

But "damn the legality!"—to quote the polite language of Mr. Haggard.

According to the judgment of the High Court there was illegality and incompetent legal advice throughout. Thus Mr. Justice Jackson remarks :

In September 1877 it seems to me that the first conviction by the Deputy Magistrate was erroneous. The accused persons were *convicted* by the Magistrate of mischief. Now the definition of mischief is to be found in section 424 of the Indian Penal Code. It is as follows :—"Whoever with inten

to cause, or knowing that he is likely to cause, wrongful loss or damage to the public, or to any person, causes the destruction of any property or any such change in any property or in the situation the eof or diminishes its value or utility or affects it injuriously, commits mischief." Now as far as I can see, the only act done by the accused in that case was a partial change in the situation of certain bamboos not otherwise destroyed or injured, and so far as to put an end to its continuance in the form of the structure. Then, putting the word "wrongful loss as defined in section 23 of the Indian Penal Code, we find that the land was in possession of the person who was legally entitled to it. Now, it is clear from the decision of the Civil Court *then in force* that Shama Churn Lahory was *not at that time legally entitled* to have that bamboo structure put together in that place, and consequently there was no causing of wrongful loss in the act done by the accused persons. It seems to me therefore that the conviction being brought before this court in the exercise of its powers of revision, the conviction would have been set aside. But the employer himself throughout these proceedings appears to have been singularly ill advised. We have an order made against him under section 513 which was allowed to remain some time. He brings a suit in the Civil Court from which he fails to obtain full effects, His servants suffer from a conviction for the offence of mischief, and that conviction is also allowed to pass without question. He seems to have been *then* advised to cover these pieces of ground with logs of wood and with bricks and other matters which was undoubtedly an unjustifiable act. We find all his men charged with rioting, and it appears that the pleader instead of simply relying upon the decision of the Civil Court, thought fit to argue before the Magistrate at length as to the question of rioting. Firstly, on the conviction taking place instead of going at once to the Civil Court, they chose, or were advised to come to this court—a procedure which undoubtedly prejudiced them in the mind of the Judge, and which has added very much to cause anxiety in these proceedings. Now come the particular proceedings which are before us. Those petitioners were charged with the offence of rioting. But first as to the proceedure, it appears to me that the accused were undoubtedly prejudiced in their case by the haste with which the prosecution was got up. I am unable to see with what public object it was done, or what was the particular case to which the Magistrate refers. It seems to have been in the eyes of the Magistrate of *particular* importance that the employer of the accused persons should *not* gain his object, and that it was of *great importance* that the *plaintiff* Shama Churn Lahory *should* gain his object, that is to say, whatever the result of this prosecution might be, Shama Churn Lahory, the plaintiff in the case, should be able to erect and occupy the *nobathkhanah*, and that the said *nobathkhanah* should fulfil its purposes for the celebration of certain ceremonies thereon. The Magistrate in a passage of his explanation submitted to the court sometime ago says that on looking back to the proceedings, he is unable to see what other course he could have taken. I confess it does seem to me strange that, considering this question had been already submitted to a Civil Court competent to entertain it, and that the Court whether *rightly* or *wrongly* had determined that Shama Churn Lahory was not entitled to that particular form of enjoyment. It does seem to me strange that the solution of this difficulty should not have occurred to the Magistrate. The right thing to do was to restrain Shama Churn Lahory from doing that, while the Civil Court had decided he was *not* entitled to do, until at any rate a further decision on the matter should be obtained.

Again:

"Now I understand this section 259 to mean that if among the persons named by the accused persons as witnesses to prove a defence he considers any particular witness is included for the purpose of delay, he has to exercise his judgment and inquire whether such witness is material. I have never heard that it was intended by that provision to enable the Magistrate to inquire generally into what the defence of the accused person is to be, and to consider whether on learning the nature of the defence he is absolutely to abstain from summoning the whole of the witnesses cited in the defence. I am aware of no warrant for the exercise of any such sweeping authority. Setting that aside, it may be said here there was no appearance of vexatious delay for which these witnesses were cited. The trial was proceeding with great rapidity. The offence of which these prisoners were charged was very serious. The law enabled them to call witnesses in order to disprove or answer the case made against them; and considering what the time of the year was at which the first attempt to procure the attendance of these witnesses had been made, it does seem to me that it would have been reasonable to allow a further time for that purpose, and I moreover think it probable that by reason of such time not having been allowed, the prisoners were prejudiced in their defence, because this was not a simple question. It was one which required somewhat minute considerations The conduct of the parties in which one side or the other had acted was of the greatest importance in determining whether the accused had committed, *first*, any offence or not, and, *secondly*, what was the nature and extent of the offence. The Magistrate indeed says, in order to justify his refusal, that the accused had confessed for which they were charged. The accused confessed to *no such thing*. They were charged with rioting. They had admitted that they had pulled up this bamboo, and displaced the erection. That is a long way from confessing the offence of rioting."

But "damn the legality!"—we again quote Mr. Haggard. Mr. Justice Jackson continues:

I now turn to the conviction. The accused have been convicted of the offence described under section 141 of the Indian Penal Code. After a great deal of consideration, I am unable to satisfy myself that that which they did comes under that section. Rioting, according to the Penal Code consists of force used in the prosecution of a common object and an unlawful assembly We must therefore find that there was an unlawful assembly, that they had a common object, and that force was exercised in the prosecution of that object. Now I think it highly probable that upon this occasion there were five or more persons assembled. But who were these persons? They were not persons assembled together for any unlawful purpose—not persons assembled together for the purpose of committing a breach of the peace. They were the ordinary servants, and probably relatively speaking, only a few of Gopee Kristo Gossains' ordinary servants. One of them discovers that stealthily the other party has in the course of the night, put up this structure which the Civil Court had declared he was not authorized to do, and he calls other servants to assist him in removing this structure which was there erected illegally. It was suggested that this matter came either under the third or fourth clauses of Section 141. The third clause specifies the objects of committing any mischief or criminal trespass or otherwise. In regard to mischief. I have already said in regard to the previous conviction, that it does not appear to me there was any mischief. In regard to criminal trespass, the allegation appears to me to be absurd. The persons accused were only where they were entitled to be. They had not gone there, nor did they remain there for the purpose of trespassing or for any other unlawful purpose. Then it is said that perhaps they had gone there for the purpose of enforcing some right or supposed right. It seems to me they had not gone there for any such purpose, that the other side had gone there for the purpose of enforcing a right which he Shama Churn Lahory perfectly well knew the court had adjudged him not to possess. These persons, of course, representing their master—went there for the purpose of resisting that infraction of their masters' right. It is admitted that no particular force or violence was used, and that this was not the case, might be further inferred from the fact that the police officers who were on the spot saw no occasion to interfere. It appears to me therefore, that there was no cause for convicting these persons of the offence of rioting inasmuch as they were not there as members of an unlawful assembly, nor for any unlawful purpose. I think therefore that the conviction, as well as the procedure under which that conviction was had, were illegal, and ought to be set aside.

The High Court is justly severe upon the Sessions Judge. Mr. Justice Jackson says:

I have only now to make one or two observations upon what was done in the Court of Session. The errors into which the Magistrate has fallen are easily explained by the circumstance that, he felt himself, whether rightly or wrongly impressed with the duty not only of maintaining the peace of the district, but also the authority of his own office, and also by the fact that he had taken a large part in the previous transactions, which led up to this conviction, and therefore felt that what he did, although I think erroneously, was far from unnatural. These considerations do not apply to the Court of Sessions. The Sessions Judge is an officer of infinitely more experience; *he* is not affected by the necessity of maintaining the authority of the Magistrate's Court, or by any participation in the previous proceedings, and yet he has, it seems to me, not merely *failed* to see any point but the mistakes which the Magistrate has committed, but he *actually goes beyond him* in the line which the Magistrate adopted. The Joint-Magistrate has certainly shown that he was not slow to vindicate the respect due to his own Court, and he passed what he avowedly considers a severe sentence when he sentenced the petitioners to three months' rigorous imprisonment. I am quite unable to see upon what grounds, or for what reason the Sessions Judge, not merely affirmed, but doubled that punishment. I think therefore, that this rule must be made absolute, and the conviction and the proceedings quashed.

Remarks on the above are superfluous. The judgment of the High Court speaks for itself. We would only ask, suppose the sufferers in this case had not the benefit of the long purse of their master, Babu Gopikissen Gossain, how would the wrongs, from which they suffered, have been righted? Are the people mistaken when they look up to the High Court as the bulwark of the liberty of the subject? And yet the Government is jealous of the High Court!

MR. MACDONALD *vrs.* MR. PHILLIPS.

WE ARE glad to learn that this case, which we first noticed in these columns, and which created considerable sensation throughout the country has been disposed of by His Honor the Lieutenant Governor. What we had published was only one side of the shield; the *Englishman* and other contemporaries now give the other side. According to our Hare Street contemporary the facts of the case, as described by Mr. Phillips, Mr. Tytler, and the peshkar of the Sub-divisional Court, and as admitted by the Government, are that Mr. Macdonald went to Mr. Phillips' Court with the avowed purpose of "having it out with him"; that having himself ordered over a chair from Mr. Phillips' bungalow, he pushed it rudely against the kutcherry table, as a preliminary to sitting down, which he did uninvited; that he then demanded in an insolent tone why process had been issued against his servants; and that when told that a certain day had been fixed for the hearing of the case, on which any representations he had to make would be listened to, he repeated his demand still more insolently, and that it was not till he had been warned more than once that he was fined for contempt of court. Mr. Macdonald would not however pay the fine. According to Mr Phillips' statement, Mr. Macdonald, on being asked to pay the fine and leave the court, declared that he would not pay the fine, and that he would sit where he was. Mr. Phillips then ordered the chaprasis in attendance to arrest him and realise the fine; and it was when he saw that they shrunk from doing so, that he himself got up and seized Mr. Macdonald, not, he states, by the hair, by the coat collar. The chaprasis thereupon also seized Mr. Macdonald, who was dragged towards the verandah. In the meantime his mukhtar begged him to pay the fine, and, on his declaring that he would do so, he was at once released by Mr. Phillips' order, and a chair was given him to sit on in the verandah. While sitting there he is said, on the evideuce of some of the court chaprasis, to have declared in Hindustani that he abstained from striking Mr. Phillips only because he was in the court, but that if he met him outside at any future time, he would settle accounts with him. Eventually the money was brought and paid over, and Mr. Macdonald left. The above facts it is added are collected from the evidence of Mr. Phillips and the court amla, supplemented by that of Mr. Tytler, to whose house Mr. Macdonald had gone on his way to the kutcherry, and who testifies to his having further spoken of the sub-divisional officer as "that d—d fellow Phillips." We are indebted to the Bengal Government for the following copy of its orders:

From HORACE A. COCKERELL, ESQ., Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial, Political, and Appointment Departments, To the Commissioner of the Patna Division. Dated Calcutta, the 26th March 1878.

Judicial.

SIR, I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the numbers and dates quoted on the margin, submitting a report from the Magistrate of Sarun on the complaint made by Mr. M. N. Macdonald an indigo-planter, his alleged ill-treatmet by Mr. Phillips, the subdivisional officer of Sewan.

2. In reply, I am directed to say that a careful perusal of the papers of the case leads the Lieutenant-Governor to believe that Mr. Macdonald's staments which he submitted to you on the 27th February last is inaccurate and exaggerated.

3. There is no doubt, from the evidence of Mr. Tytler and the Peshkar of the sub-divisional court, and Mr. Phillip's own statement, that Mr. Macdonald, being much excited by certain orders which Mr. Phillips had given, entered his court and conducted himself in an outrageous manner, his object no doubt being to overawe Mr. Phillips and increase his own importance amongst the natives of the neighbourhood.

4 Whether Mr. Macdonald's conduct amounted technically to a contempt of court it is not necessary for the Lieutenant-Governor to decide: that is a matter regarding which Mr. Macdonald can obtain the decision of the appellate court if he desires it. There is no doubt, however, that his manner and conduct were so offensive that he put himself entirely in the wrong in respect to any proceedings which were taken by the Magistrate with a view of maintaining his authority.

5, When he comes to examine Mr. Phillip's proceedings the Lieutenant-Governor is forced to the conclusion that they were not judicious or becoming.

A Magistrate in his own court holds a position of very great advantage in respect to any offender against order in the court so long as he maintains his own equability of temper and the dignity of his office. So long as the Magistrate does this, the disturber of the order of the court is entirely at his mercy, and the more he offends the worse his position ultimately becomes. But when the Magistrate himself becomes excited and enters into an angry altercation with the offender, he entirely sacrifices his possition. If Mr. Phillips had waited patiently, taken down all that Mr. Macdonald said to him, and then proceeded to record a calm and temperate judgment, his position would have been unassailable; but, unfortunately, he allowed Mr. Macdonald's insulting conduct to irritate and excite him into acting with haste and without due reflection and regard for his judicial office. Had Mr. Phillips remained calm, Mr. Macdonald would no doubt have seen the false position in which he was placing himself, and have taken an early opportunity of receding from it. Having, however, considered that the case called for an order fining Mr. Macdonald for contempt of court, Mr. Phillips might have left the recovery of the fine to the ordinary course of law. Mr. Macdonald is a well-known resident of the district, and payment could have been enforced at any time; and even if Mr. Phillips had found himself unable to enforce payment of the fine, he could have obtained the assistance and support of the Magistrate of the district. Unfortunately, however, Mr. Phillips not only ordered Mr. Macdonald out of court, but directed his removal by the police, and then so far forgot the dignity of his position as to assist personally in an unsuccessful attempt to remove Mr. Macdonald from the court; and the result was an unseemly struggle of a very candalous description. Had Mr. Maedonald's conduct been less offensive and objectionable than it

has been, the Lieutenant-Governor would have felt it his duty to take serious notice of Mr. Phillips' undignified and unseemly proceeding. As it is, he is willing to make allowances on account of the provocation which he received from Mr. Macdonald's demeanour and attempt to set his authority at defiance. Mr. Phillips is a young officer, conscientious, active, and zealous in the performance of his public duties, and the Lieutenant-Governor hopes that this will be a lesson to him to exercise greater self-control and not to allow himself to be irritated into conduct which is inconsistent with his judicial office. Mr. Phillips' want of judicial calmness is the more to be regretted as it makes it impossible for the Lieutenant-Governor to take such notice as he would have liked to have done of this attempt by an influential European resident of a district to dictate to and defy a Magistrate in his own court.

6. I am to add that the Lieutenant-Governor thinks it is to be regretted that Mr. Park did not bring Mr. Phillips and Mr. Macdonald face to face and record their statements in the presence of each other.

7. I am to request that you will be so good as to forward a copy of this letter to Mr. Macdonald.

If the facts given by the *Englishman* be correct, then Mr. Phillips we must do him the justice to say was more sinned against than sinning. Mr. Phillips did not evidently execute his own order till he saw the helplessness of his court peons. Mr. Macdonald would not pay the fine nor leave the court; Mr. Phillips could not allow the dignity of his court to be so openly defied, and he ordered the peons in attendance to arrest Mr. Macdonald and realize the fine; the peons shrunk from their duty apparently because the party concerned was a saheb; if Mr. Macdonald had left the court without paying the fine, the moral effect of such open defiance of the authority of the Court upon the people would have been exceedingly bad, and so he was compelled to execute his own order. The Lieutenant Governor remarks, "having, however, considered that the case called for an order fining Mr. Macdonald for contempt of court, Mr. Phillips might have left the recovery of the fine to the ordinary course of law. Mr. Macdonald is a well-known resident of the district, and payment could have been enforced at any time; and if Mr. Phillips had found himself unable to enforce payment of the fine, he could have obtained the assistance and support of the Magistrate of the district." Now, what is the "ordinary course of the law" referred to? When a person is fined for contempt of court, the ordinary course is that he is not allowed to leave the court without paying the fine or without the order of the court. Mr. Phillips, if he liked, might have kept Mr. Macdonald in durance vile without imposing a fine, and he deserves credit that though he was naturally enough excited, he restrained himself and did not go to that extent. All things considered Mr. Phillips deserves sympathy, not censure.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

We are requested to announce that a meeting of the subscribers to the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science will be held at the Association Rooms to-morrow, the 2nd instant, at 5 P. M. for the purpose of adopting Rules for the management of the Association.

We have received the following telegram from Lahore:

Lahore, 30th March.—A crowded meeting of the Lahore public, under the auspices of the Local Indian Association unanimously recorded to-day an emphatic protest against the recent Taxation and the Vernacular Press Act.

An esteemed European friend thus writes to us about the Vernacular Press Act:

"I was very glad to see your article on the Press Licensing Act. It is a very grave error—mischievous and useless. The History of Discontent clearly proves that the suppression of the power of complaint leads to secret associations. You were mistaken about Irish press laws. They have existed in large number but their uselessness for good and power for evil have been so clearly proved that they are very rarely put in force. Moreover, the expression "rabid" was to say the least, unfortunate. You ought to have learned by this time that the epithets applied by English Journals to their political opponents are not accurate. I presume you are not speaking from a personal knowledge of the Irish Press.

We plead guilty. We called the Irish papers "rabid" from the character given to it by the English Press. We are sorry we did not remember that the attitude of the English Press towards the Irish papers resembles much that of the *Pioneer* towards the Native Press of India.

Russia's aggressiveness and love of self-aggrandizement have exhausted England's patience, and according to the latest telegrams the latter has made up her mind to go to war. Although a general war in Europe would be a calamity for the civilized world, we do not see how England could consistently with self-respect keep herself out of the fray. Apparently England is single-handed, but we should be very much surprised if a war between England and Russia should not lead to a general conflagration in Europe. The map of Europe cannot be reconstructed without involving the whole continent in armed demonstrations. But whether single-handed or no, England has vast resources at her command, and if her sons have not lost their hereditary spirit she has nothing to fear in the contest. The old mother has given birth to young lions such as Australia, Canada, NewZealand, and other colonies, which are sure to rally round her in the hour of danger. To us in India a war between England and Russia has the deepest import. For the sake of all that is dear to us we do hope that the impending war may be averted. It is said that Austria is mediating, and we sincerely and earnestly hope that her good office may prove successful. Lord Derby has resigned, and as we had anticipated Lord Salisbury has taken his place; Mr. Gathorne Hardy, who obtains a peerage, becomes the Indian Minister, and Col. Stanley, the War Minister. By the removal of Mr. Hardy from the House of Commons the debating power of the Ministry suffers.

Sir William Robinson, Member of the Madras Council, is the only official in India, who has had the courage to speak out against the License tax in its present form. At a recent sitting of the Madras Legislative Council he said, "that the proposed exemption of the professional and salaried classes from taxation would furnish a dangerous precedent in the financial proceedings of the Government of India. He studied the opinions of other Legislative Councils on the point but he did not think that their enunciations should affect independen judgment of the Madras Council." Sir William added: "He considered himself perfectly justified in asking that the professional classes and salaried officials should be included in the taxation, for these people were a small and a wealthy minority of the community. He proposed his amendment in the interests of principle, justified and sound policy and on behalf of the population whose interests the Council were supposed to protect, and as he considered that it was only fair, just, and reasonable that the professional classes, who were more able to bear the burden than other classes, should be included in the taxation, he would press his amendment." His Grace, however, told his colleague that "the Government of India having decided upon a certain general policy for a certain purpose, the local Government had no voice in the matter." In other words the local Governments must register the decrees of the Supreme Government without even a grumble. Sir William Robinson we hear has written a strong minute against the Arms Act. Will the Government of India condesend to publish it?

So the Maharaja of Kuch Behar has been packed off to England. It is said that he is accompanied by his two cousins. The supplications and lamentations of the Maharanis have availed little. We have not heard whether even a reply has been vouchsafed to them. This high-handed proceeding of Government has filled the native community with deep regret. They did not for a moment dream that the Government would take a step in respect of a ward under its control, which would interfere with his caste and religion, and so violently outrage the feelings of his natural guardians. The pretext that the Maharaja has gone of his own accord is one the value of which may be perceived when it is remembered that he is a boy of not quite sixteen years of age. By the bye are his cousins of sufficient age to judge for themselves, or is the Maharaja, himself a minor, the guardian of his minor cousins?

We have received the following telegram from Dhubri:

"Dhubri Police destroyed a native Assistant Engineer's house, removed valuables during owner's absence without notice or assigning reasons."

We have received the following particulars by post:

On the 12th March 1878, the Deputy Commissioner of Goalpara while taking a walk inquired of a neighbour of the Assistant Engineer (Nesor Ahmed) as to the Assistant Engineer's whereabouts and why a particular shed of his was being built, as was alleged, so close to the road. Then and there the Deputy Commissioner verbally ordered sub-inspector of Police to check all further progress of the particular shed in question, *which was however then about to be completed*, and to watch and report the return of the Assistant Engineer to Dhubri from his work on the road some 15 miles away. Nearly an hour after the Deputy Commissioner's order a Constable of Police came as a guard over the unfinished house, but instead of remaining idle, he became violent towards the Assistant Engineer's menials and threw away some materials from the site of work. By a friend the Assistant Engineer was written to all about the above, whereupon the Assistant Engineer begged the Deputy Commissioner by a letter to be informed on what account the Deputy Commissioner was so much displeased with him, so that be might correct himself. The Deputy Commissioner did not vouchsafe any reply to the Assistant Engineer and he thought in consequence the matter had come to an end, until we witnessed this day of what has been described in the telegram. More than Rs 1,000 worth of articles were damaged by the Police. The matter has been reported to the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

The Puna Survajanik Sabha has invited a meeting of the conductors of the Native Press in the Presidency of Bombay. The Sabha, in a circular letter, a copy of which has been forwarded to us, writes:

The eminent and in part unexpected success which attended the first attempt of the Sabha, has encouraged the latter to hold a similar conference of the Editors of the Native Press of the Bombay Presidency and of the adjoining Provinces of Berar and Hydrabad, in the hope of forming a committee to correspond with that in Calcutta. The object of holding these conferences is that representatives of the Native Press and the several Political Associations existing in the several parts of this Presidency, should meet together and after ascertaining each others views upon the current political questions chalk out general lines of policy which should be pursued by the exponents of native Public opinion and recommended for adoption to the native public generally.

In addition to the questions addressed to the Calcutta Associations the Sabha has submitted a string of 15 new questions for discussion.

The Englishman lately drew public attention to the financial position of an excellent institution in this city, called the "Calcutta Hospital Nurses' Institution with which is amalgamated the Lady Canning Home." This institution has been in existence for about eighteen years and has supplied trained female nurses to the General and Medical College Hospitals. With this Institution has been lately amalgamated the Lady Canning Home. The Home, which was intended as a Memorial of the late Lady Canning, was first planned in 1861, immediately after her death, and it was hoped that the funds then collected would provide a home and training for a staff of Nurses available for out-nursing. Unfortunately the money subscribed was not sufficient to establish the home, though at one time a temporary home was started under the management of the Calcutta Hospital Nurses' Institution, and answered so well as to prove that it met a real want. After a time the Trustees of the Lady Canning Memorial fund declined to continue the small payment they made towards the Nurses' Home, and it had in consequence to be closed. With a view to securing a working Committee which should arrange matters of detail and help in the collection of funds, H. H. the Lieutenant-Governor, the Bishop of Calcutta and the other Trustees of the Canning Fund proposed during

the past year that the Hospital Nurses' Institution, till then quite distinct from the Canning Home, should be amalgamated with it, and the two institutions managed by one Committee subject to the approval of the Trustees of the Canning Fund. The amalgamation has been effected, but it has not improved the financial position of the two institutions. Last year the average monthly expenditure was Rs. 1,800; of this the Government gives a monthly grant of Rs. 700, and the balance Rs, 1,100 has to be collected by the Ladies' Committee, who manage the institution. To raise such a large sum by private subscription is a difficult task, but we hope the charitable public of Calcutta will render it easy. Hitherto the European public have borne the burden, but the Nurses serve both European and Native patients. For instance there are thirteen large wards in the Medical College Hospital, seven of which are filled with native patients. It is therefore meet and just that our countrymen should take some share of the cost of maintaining these nurses. It is needless for us to point out how useful are these nurses and what delicate functions they perform. It reflects no small credit upon the Ladies' Committee for the patience and perseverance with which they discharge their benevolent work. We feel confident that if they will but appeal to such angels of charity as Maharani Shurnomoye, Maharani Surut Sunduri, Maharani Sham Mohini and others, they will meet with a prompt and generous response. If we recollect aright, the late Lord Bishop or Miss Milman a few months before his death had called a meeting of native gentlemen to organize measures for enlisting native sympathy in support of the institution and that a subscription had been set on foot, but we have not heard what has become of the project. Mrs. Horace Cockerell, who is Honorary Secretary and Treasurer to the Institution, we understand, takes a lively interest in the Institution; if she will call a meeting of leading native gentlemen, we dare say some feasible plan of action may be adopted. In the meantime we desire to mention that donations and subscriptions will be received by Mrs. Cockerell, No. 15, Camac Street.

It appears from a report of the Government of the North-Western Provinces on scarcity that the Temple ration has not been adopted in the afflicted districts of those provinces. The scale of rations is laid down as follows:

10	chittacks wheat flour.
2	,, dal.
½	,, salt.
1¼	seers firewood.

The rates of wages has been fixed as follows:

Men	...	@1½ anna
Women	...	@1 ,,
Children	...	@ ½ ,,

In respect of poor houses the ration is allowed on the following scale:

To adults of both sexes	8 chtks	1½ chtks.
,, children above 10	6 ,,	1½ ,,
,, ditto below 10...	4 ,,	1 ,,
,, ditto in arms...	2 ,,	1 ,,

The rate of mortality in the distressed districts seems to be very heavy.

We take from the English papers the following interpellations in the House of Commons regarding India:

Taxation in India.—Lord George Hamilton, in reply to Mr. O'Donnell, said: The maximum amount which can be levied under the Road Cess Tax and the Public Works Tax in India is an anna in the rupee upon the annual value of lands in a district, equivalent to 6 per cent. I have seen a telegraphic report of a meeting held at Bombay two days ago, but I have no information on the subject beyond that newspaper telegram.

Lord George Hamilton, replying to another question from the hon. member, said: The maximum amount leviable under the license tax was 200 rupees, the minimum one rupee; by which no one coming under the operation of the bill could pay 2 per cent. on his trade income. Since then modification have been made with a view to increasing the maximum amount leviable and also to exempting the lower incomes, but we have not yet received the bills in their final shape. At present we have no intention of putting on any tax additional to those proposed by Sir J. Strachey.

Military Service in India.—Mr. Hardy, in reply to Sir G. Campbell, stated that no actual agreement had been come to between the India Office as to providing of seasoned and experienced soldiers for India. Negotiations, however had been going on for some time, and a committee was at present sitting to consider the subject. He had no doubt some satisfactory arrangement would be devised.

Sir G. Campbell gave notice that on going into Committee of Supply on the Army Estimates, he would call attention to the imprudence of ceasing to enlist long-service recruits for India. Mr. Hardy said the hon. member was in error in supposing, as he evidently did, that long service had been abolished. The soldiers were enlisted for six years, but the best of them could be retained beyond that period. This arrangement, it was calculated, would secure for the Government 25 per cent. more men than they now obtained.

Indian Taxation.—Sir G. Campbell inquired of the Under-Secretary of State for India whether, since he had laid before the House the views of the Government of India in regard to the imposition of new taxation, he would also produce papers showing the views on that subject of the Governments of Madras, Bombay, the North-West Provinces, and the Punjab, and of the members of the Council of India at home.

Lord G. Hamilton. If the hon. gentleman will move for the particular papers he requires, I will ascertain from the Secretary of State whether or not they can be laid on the table of the House, but it is quite impossible for me to judge from his question what the papers are which he desires to have published.

THE TRIAL OF THE RAJA OF PURI.

[FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

The Hindu world will be taken aback to hear that the representative of the once powerful Kings of Orissa, the great Pontiff of Jagannatha's famous fane is undergoing trial for committing murder. The Raja and 9 of his servants have been committed by the Magistrate of Puri to the Cuttack Sessions Court on a charge of murder under sections 302 Indian Penal Code. The Magistrate was asked by the Commissioner to appoint Mr. Graves, the District Superintendent of Cuttack Police, to prosecute the Raja, the Magistrate for obvious reasons did not accede to this recommendation, and deputed Babu Nobin Chundra Sen, Deputy Magistrate, for the purpose of prosecuting the case jointly with the Government Pleader, but under orders of Government obtained by the Commissioner Mr. Graves was appointed Public Prosecutor under Sections 57 and 58 Criminal Procedure Code, and the two other gentlemen were directed to assist him. Yesterday was fixed for the trial, which came on at 12 A. M. Messrs. Evans and Handley and almost all the pleaders of the Local bar defending the prisoners; a local zemindar and a teacher of the Cuttack Collegiate School were appointed assessors. The trial opened by the Judge amending the charge of his own motion, setting forth the particulars of the murder, as the wording of the Magistrate was rather vague; the case for the prosecution being stated by the public prosecutor, Mr. Beck, District Engineer, Puri, was called upon to produce the plan of the Raja's house, which was sworn to by him, the Hospital Compounder was examined to prove that the deceased Siva Das Babaji died in the Hospital, and that he passed 39 pieces of sola in his presence, namely 34 pieces on the morning of the 24th of February and 5 pieces on the 27th idem, then the statements of the deceased made before the Magistrate were put in and, after some feeble objections raised by the counsel for prosecution, as to the relevancy of certain portions of them, were admitted as evidence by the Court, only one statement had to be sworn to by the Police Inspector, in whose presence it was recorded by the Magistrate, the deposition itself being somewhat informal. These statements and depositions shew that the deceased Babaji had the reputation of curing, all sorts of distempers in an extraordinary manner, which attracted the notice of the Dowager Rani, whose adopted son the Raja is, and that the Rani on a certain occasion sent a message to the deceased to cure the Raja of what she believed to be signs of insanity or to quote the words of the Babaji the Rani believed "the Raja was losing his senses"—the Babaji sent a *tulasi leaf* with an *ipso dixit* that the Raja will be cured in 8 days. It would thus appear that there was some misunderstanding between the Dowager Rani and the Raja—and this trifling matter was, as you will percieve, from what fell from the Raja's own lips at the time of assault, gravely misrepresented to him, influenced by this misrepresentation, Gopi Shing, a peon of the Raja accompanied by another servant was sent to fetch the deceased Siva Das Babaji from Damodurpur, a village about 5 miles from Puri. He started on the noon of the 29th February and returned with Babaji at 8 P. M. the same evening. While passing by the Puri Police Station, the Head Constable Giridhari Lal accosted the Babaji and requested him to sit awhile at the station, but the Babaji said he had been sent for by the Raja and would if possible call at the station on his return. The Babaji was then shown in, his four companions (his disciples) being ordered to wait at the main entrance. The Babaji was then taken to the "Jogaghar" or Raja's private Gymnaseum situated in a secluded part of the Palace, he was ordered to sit down, which he no sooner did than about 10 or 12 servants of the Raja fell upon him and commenced a series of brutal torture, they belabored him with clubs and fists, human ordure being put into his mouth, (probably, a popular deterrant to witchcraft) the mouth, being at the same time tied up with a piece of cloth—then a number of pieces of pith or sola rammed into the intestines by means of a stick, and (it has been already noted that the man passed 39 such pieces before his death)—and then a lighted torch was applied to his private and posterior parts. The deceased also suspected from his inability to draw water immediately after the assault that some substance resembling lime (of which there were marks at the time of medical examination) was pushed into the urethra. In this state he was thrown out by a back-door into a narrow blind lane behind the Raja's house where a chaplet covered with filth, was found the following morning and identified by him; from this place, he managed to crawl to the Lion-gate of the temple, a distance of about 600 feet—and was completely overpowered there, he was observed at 12 P. M. by 2 night-patroles and while being taken to the Police station, he called for his companions, while passing near the Raja's house, these men having waited for him for a long time had gone to sleep. The man was then carried in a Palki to the Police station, where he was wrapped in a cloth and then conveyed to the Hospital. According to the statement of the Compounder the man died on the noon of the 8th March. It has been proved by the statement of the Inspector Ram Rao as has been stated above that the man being the very next morning taken to the palace by the Magistrate after the examination at the Hospital, pointed out the place of occurence the back-door, lane, and all.

After these statements were put in, Gopi Singh was examined and his testimony corroborated the statements of the deceased as to his bringing the deceased to the palace.

The Court rose at 5-30 P. M.

SUBJANTA.

27th March 1878.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS.	Rs.	As.	P.
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,, Chundersekar Mookerjea, Allahabad	10	0	0
,, Deepnarain Singh, Bankipur	1	11	0

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—*March*, 27, 1878.

GENERAL.—Mr. C. T. Metcalfe C. S. I. Officiating Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, obtained leave for fifteen days.

Mr. A. Burooah Officiating Joint Magistrate and Deputy Collector was in charge of Culna division from the 24th January to 4th February 1878.

Mr. E. R. Middleton, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Serampore, Hooghly obtained leave for nine months in addition to his previous leave.

Baboo Nobin Krishna Banerjee, Officiating Sub-Deputy Collector, Bagirhat, Jessore, to be a Sub-Deputy Collector.

First Grade, *vice* Baboo Mohim Chunder Ghose.

Three months leave is allowed to Moulvi Abdool Jubber, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Mozufferpore.

Baboo Doorgadas Chowdry Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector Durbunga, is transferred to the Sudder Station of Muzufferpore.

The services of Mr. L. R. Tottenham. Officiating Superintendent and Legal Remembrance are placed at the disposal of the Government of India, Home Department.

Surgeon-Major W. H. Hayes Deputy Commissioner, Singbhoom obtained subsidiary leave for 21 days, preparatory to retiring from the service.

Mr. J. C. Geddes C. S. obtained an extension of furlough for two months.

Baboo Nund Kishore Das Assistant, to the Superintendent Tributary Mehals, Cuttuck is vested with the powers of a Deputy Collector.

Baboo Poorna Chunder Ghose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Manickgunge, Dacca, is transferred to the Sudder State of Dacca.

Baboo Tarini Sunker Roy Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dacca, to have charge of the Manickgunge division, Dacca.

Baboo Prosunno Kumar Dutt, Canoongoe, Chittagong to be a Sub-Deputy Collector First Grade in Noakhally.

Mr. A. J. R. Bainbridge district and Sessions Judge, Moorshedabad obtained leave for three days in extension of his previous leave.

Moulvi Abdool Ghuffoor, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dacca, obtained leave for three months.

The services of Major E. Y. Walcott, Lohardugga are replaced at the disposal of the Government of India, Military Department.

Major N. Lowis is promoted to the First Grade of Assistant Commissioners, *vice* Major E. Y. Walcott. Major Lowis will continue to be as Manager of the Chotanagpore Estate.

Major W. L. Samuells, Assistant Commissioner on furlough, is promoted to the First Grade of Assistant Commissioners *vice* Major N. Lowis.

Lieutenant L. J. H. Grey Assistant Commissioner, is promoted to the Second Grade of Assistant Commissioners temporarily *vice*, W. L. Samuells. Lieutenant Grey will continue to be on special duty in the Burkagurh Estate.

Captain H. Boileau to be an Assistant Commissioner Third Grade. He will continue to be employed as Private Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal.

Major T. H. Lewin, Deputy Commissioner, Darjeeling is promoted to the Second Grade of Deputy Commissioners.

Mr. G. J. B. T. Dalton Officiating Deputy Commissioner Cooch Behar, to be a Deputy Commissioner of the Third Grade, but will continue to act in the Second Grade of Deputy Commissioners until further orders.

Mr. S. J. Manook, Medical Officer and Sub-Assistant Commissioner, Singbhoom, to have charge of the Office of Deputy Commissioner, Singbhoom *vice*, Surgeon Major W H. Hayes.

The following officers are to act as Magistrates and Collectors of the First Grade:—

Mr. J. A. Hopkins *vice* Mr. W. H. D'Oyly.

Mr. J. J. Livesay, *vice* Mr. D. R. Lyall.

Mr. A. W. Mackie Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Purneah, obtained leave for three months.

Mr. B. L. Gupta Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector Barripore division, 24 Perghunnahs is transferred to Purneah.

POLICE.—Baboo Mohendro Nath Bagra is reappointed to act in the First Grade of Assistant Superintendent of Police, from the date he ceases to officiate as District Superintendent of Police Noakally.

Mr. H. J. Wilkins, District Superintendent of Police is appointed to be District Superintendent of Police, Bogra. This cancels the orders of the 28th Ultimo, appointing Mr. C. A. Fisher to act as District Superintendent of Police, Bogra.

REGISTRATION.—Baboo Peary Mohun Sircar, Sub-Registrar of Nulhatti, Moorshedabad, to be Sub-Registrar, of Baluchur in that district.

The Sub-Registrar of Ramporehat, Moorshedabad, to be *ex-Officio* Sub-Registrar of that place.

The privilege leave for three months of Baboo Bhugobutty Charan Chatterjee Special Sub-Registrar of Alipore, is cancelled at his own request.

MEDICAL.—Dr. A. S. Lethbridge to be a Member of the Committee appointed to report on the management of the medical Institutions and on medical expenditure generally in Bengal.

JUDICIAL.—Baboo Rashbehary Bose B. L. to act as Moonsif of Gungarampore in Dinagepore, and also to act as an additional Moonsif of Maldah.

Baboo Khetter Mohun Mookerjee to officiate as Moonsif of Cutwa in Burdwan, until further orders.

Baboo Amirtolal Pal B. L Moonsif of Burdwan, is promoted to the First Grade of Moonsifs *vice* Baboo Jeebun Kristo Chatterjee.

Baboo Otool Chunder Ghose L. L., Moonsif of Narail in Jessore, is promoted to the Second Grade of Moonsifs *vice* Baboo Amirtolal Pal.

Baboo Soshee Bhusan Chatterjee B. L. to be a Moonsif of the Third Grade *vice* Baboo Otool Chunder Ghose. He is confirmed as Officiating Moonsif, Diamond Harbour, 24 Perghs.

Baboo Upendro Chunder Mullick B. L. to be Moonsif of Nemal in Mednapore, but to continue to act as Subordinate Judge and Judge of the Small Cause Court at Jessore.

Baboo Nund Kissore Das, Assistant to the Superintendent of the Tributary Mehals Cuttuck, is vested with the powers of a Moonsif.

P. W. D.—*Transfer* Mr. P. J. Newville Executive Engineer (temporary rank) Second Grade from the Third Calcutta to the Circular and Eastern Canal Division.

Baboo Grish Chunder Roodder Overseer, First Grade, availed 3 months privilege leave.

Baboo Beharee Lall Banerjee Overseer, First Grade, Dinagepore Division, obtained leave for four months on medical certificate.

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Letters of administration to the Estate and effects of Baboo Khelaut Chunder Ghose deceased late of Pathooriaghattah Street has this day been granted by the High Court to his widow Sreemuty Kistomohinee Dassee during the minority of his adopted son Ramanauth Ghose—Debtors of the said Estate are required to pay their Debts and creditors thereof are requested to make their claims known to her.

Calcutta, 25*th March* 1878. } SWINHOE LAW & Co., *Attorneys at Law.*

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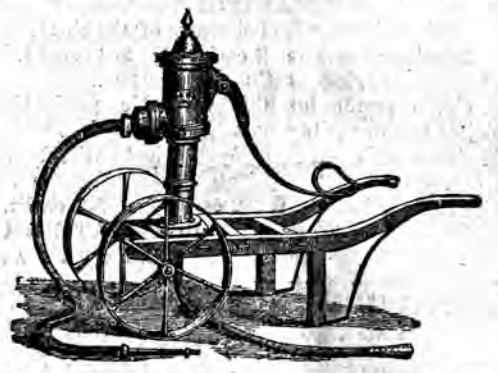

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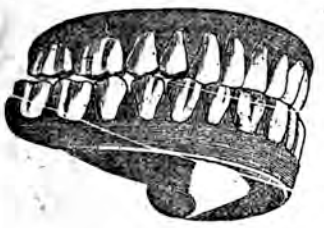

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